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THE
IKDAL
FAMILY HISTORY

**The American Branches of the Ikdal Family
With an Account of Their Origins in Western
Norway and Information Concerning the
Norwegian Relatives.**

Compiled by

J. HART ROSDAIL

**With Chapters XI, XII and XV, and the
Major Part of Chapters XVI and XVII of Section III
Written by Jeannette Mather Lord.**

Chicago, 1947

Copyright, 1949

by

J. Hart Rosdail

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Dedicated to
THE GRAND OLD MEN OF MY TIME
who sat with me in the shade on warm summer days
and
gazed out over fertile acres
with eyes that saw far down the misty road of memory
into other fields
and
other years

ACKNOWLEDGMENT

For the Compilation:

This book is a gathering together of information and stories supplied by many people whose names are to be found within the covers. It is not practical to list all of these cousins, but I should like to make special acknowledgment to three of them:

To Jasper Ward Thompson for an important contribution to the cost of collecting family history information, a process involving much expense for postage and for personal travel to interview relatives in diverse parts of the country.

To Mary Audentia Anderson, the author of a family history of her own published under the title "Ancestry and Posterity of Joseph Smith and Emma Hale". The genealogical research demonstrated within its six hundred pages is remarkable for both quantity and quality. One of the chapters deals with the Meling branch of the Ikdal Family and she has graciously given me permission to borrow from it as I wished. In addition she has personally contributed the interesting account of the first arrival of the Ikdals in America and some of the subsequent adventures of the Melings.

To Jeannette Mather Lord, an indefatigable worker on the Aursland branch of the family for many many years. She was collecting traditions and studying the Norwegian and Norwegian-American background long before I became interested in the family. Although planning a book of her own covering the family from Aursland she has generously permitted an advance presentation of much material. Her sketches of the children of Eli Guttormsdatter are chock full of Norwegianiana -- songs, recipes, fairy stories, and what not, -- which should be of interest to all branches of the family.

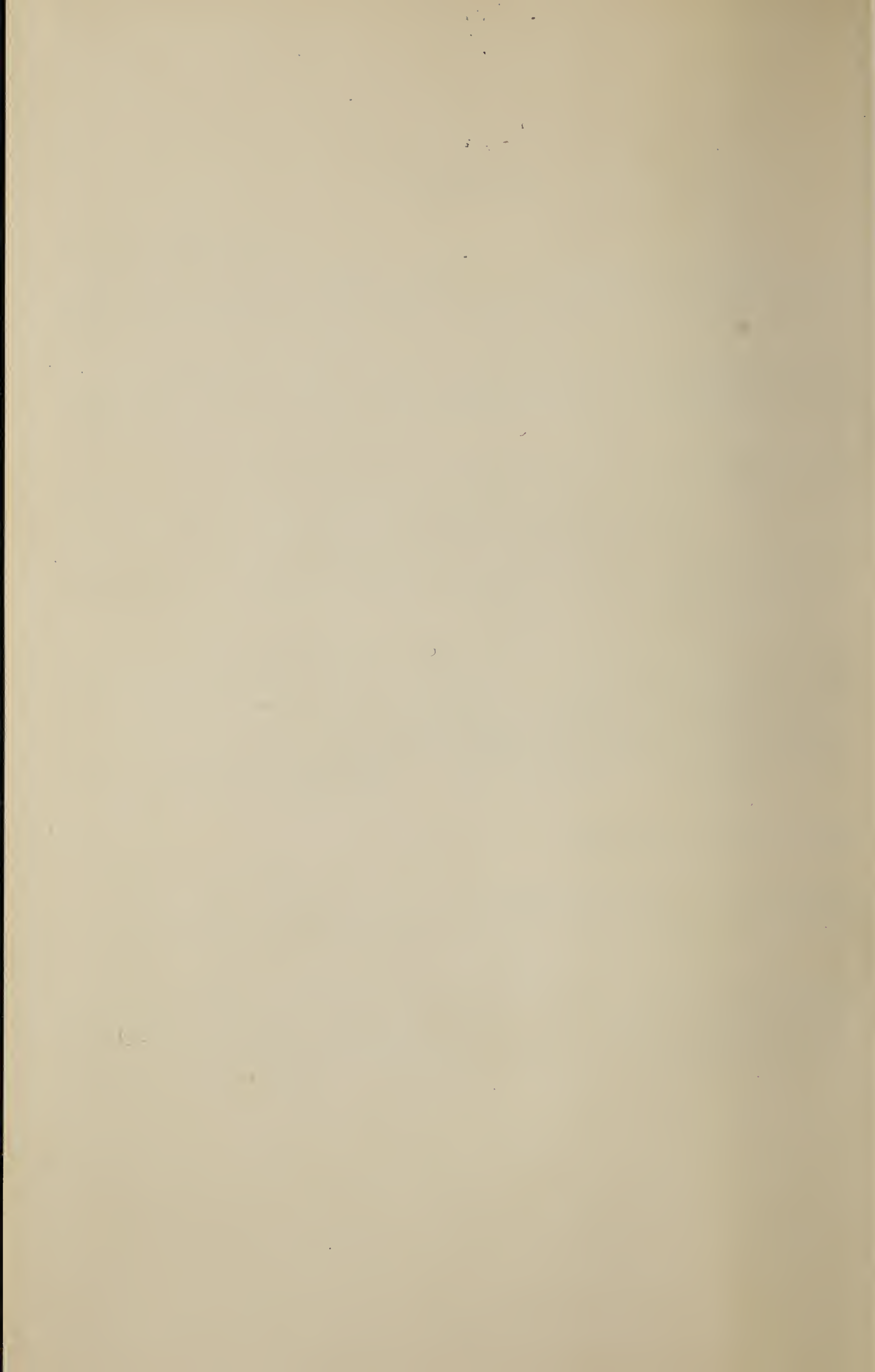
For the Publication:

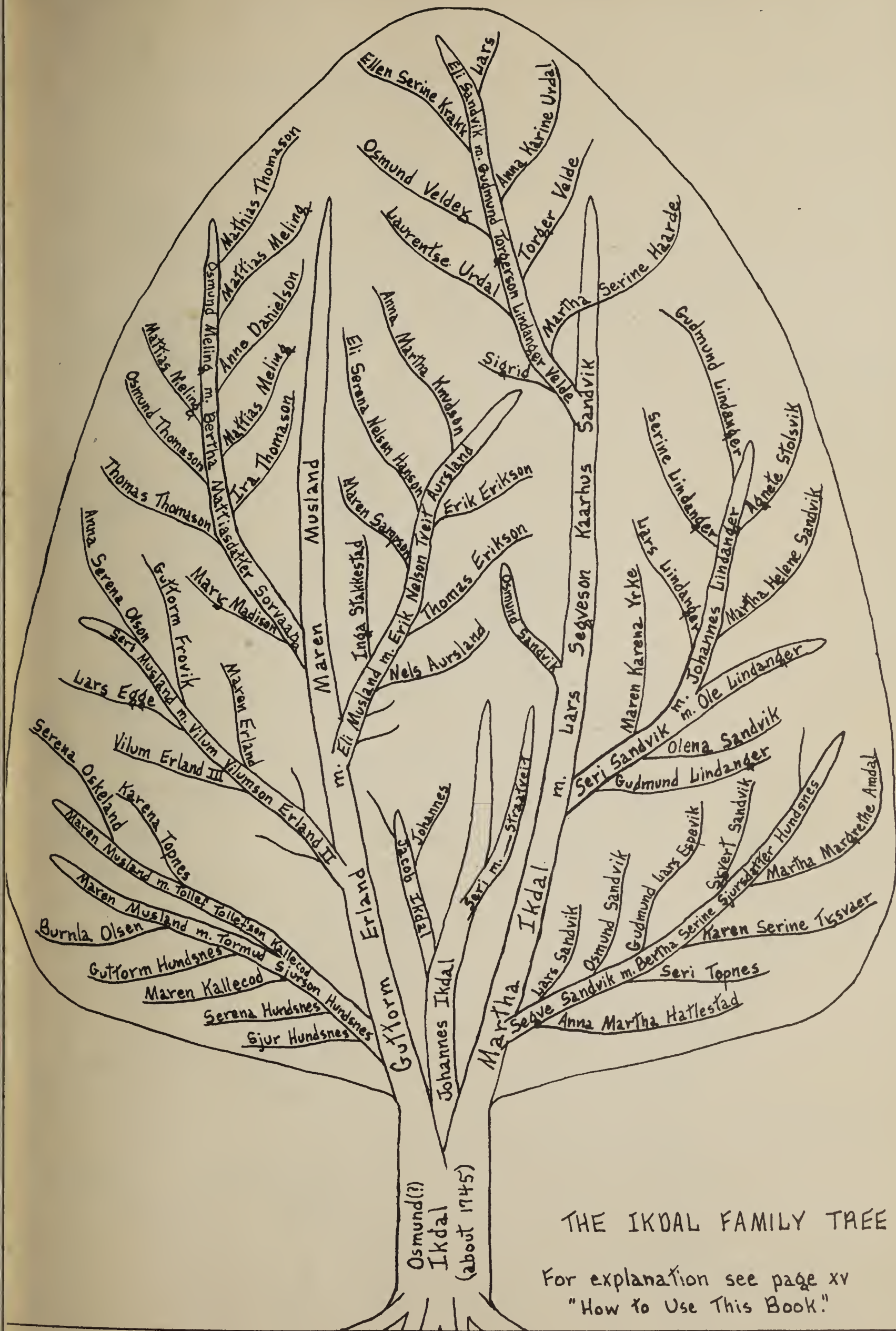
To Christena Rosdail Halstead, my mother, for hundreds of hours of work in typing and editing the manuscript for the printer -- a labor which eliminated one of the major expenses of publishing.

To Daniel S. Thompson, Arthur N. Egeland, Chester H. Thompson, Mabel Christian Arthur, William Williamson, Rachel Mather Bush, Ruby Thompson, Eunice Thompson, Dollie Thompson, Mary Audentia Smith Anderson, Sadie Tow, Martha Roseland, Mary Tow, Henry M. Thomason, Severine Thompson, Mrs. Floyd Jacobson, and Martha Lindanger, for advancing the money needed for publishing.

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For explanation see page xv
"How to Use This Book."

MAP I

Our Ancestral Farms
In Norway

Neseto

1" = 100,000"

1" = 1.6 miles

NORTHERN BOUNDARY

ROGALAND

SKJOLD

ATLANTIC OCEAN

Haugesund

Eilert
Haugaland

Grinde

Frokk
Aksele

Vatn

n Eike
s Eike

NORDSTJORDEN

Nordtveit
Hauge

Honvik

Apeland

KARMÖY

Avaldsnes

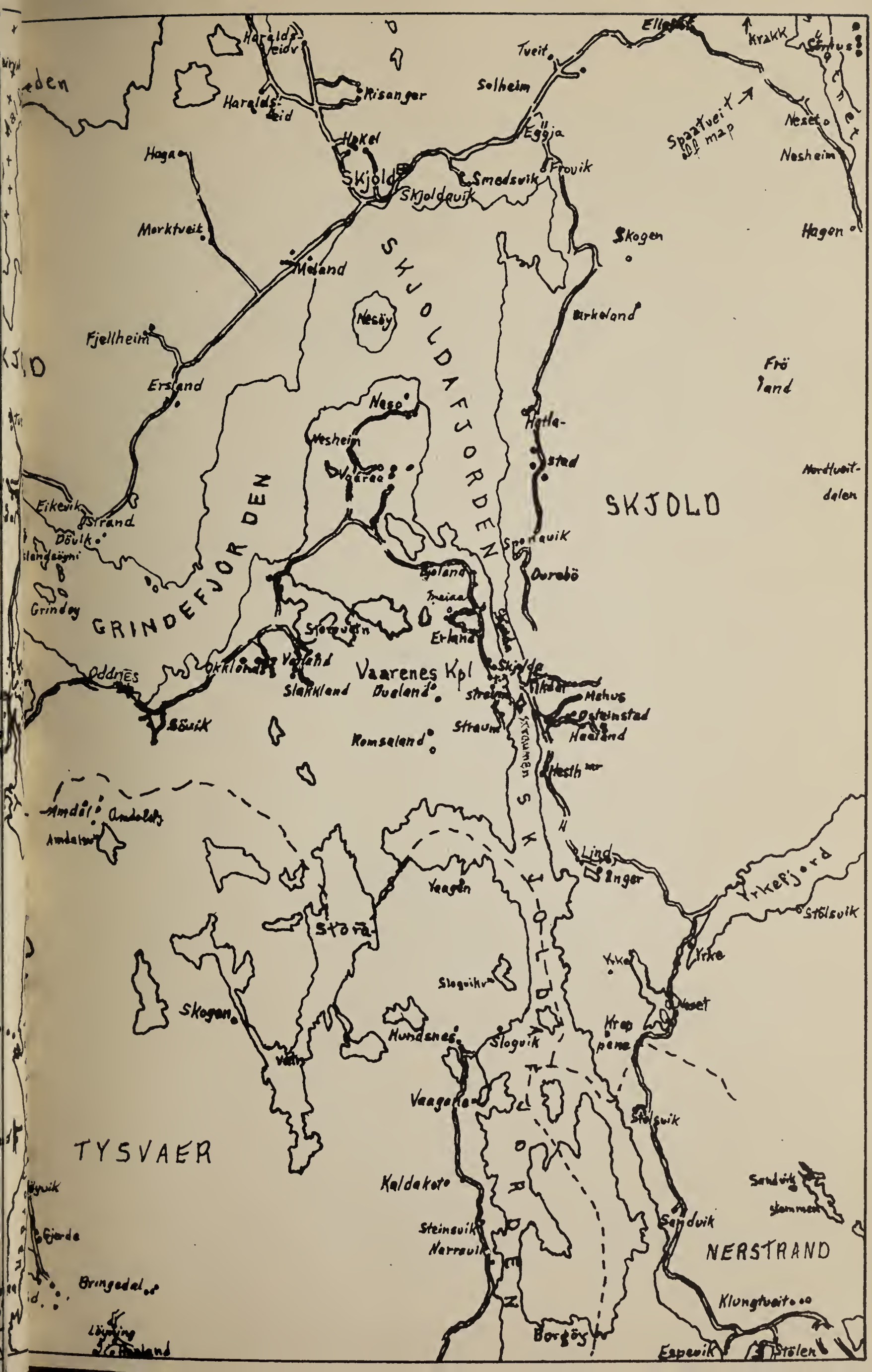
Skeie

Kelle

To Skander

Hauke

Halling



MAP II

Ancestral Farms in
Eastern Skjold and
Southern Nerstrand



HOW IT CAME TO BE WRITTEN

This book is a compilation of the traditions of the Ikdal Family, a family having its origins in western Norway and with its members divided between that country and the United States. Its traditions are therefore Norwegian, and, may possibly add some small amount of information to the history of that group in America. If such is the case this book might be considered as one of the minutiae in the fabric of our own country's history. because historians have come to realize that the real history of any nation is to be found in the history of its national groups.

However I make haste to correct any impression that such altruistic motives were responsible for the writing of the Ikdal Family History. It was compiled and written up -- in spare time -- simply because I enjoy doing this sort of thing. When I was a lad of twelve I used to go visiting with my grandparents. On one such occasion a discussion arose as to whether their great uncle so-and-so had had ten or twelve children and whether there had not been a pair of twins among the bunch. No one could give the answer and my curiosity was aroused. I had to know! Someone must know. I started to dig, and thus commenced my lasting interest in genealogy.

There are several reasons for this continued interest in genealogy and I am going to mention them because they are really the reasons why this book came into being. Further, a listing of some of the attractions of family history hunting as a spare-time hobby may possibly inspire others to continue the Ikdal Family records down through the generations to come.

The first reason for working on the family tree may be described as the challenge of the unknown, or the love of digging out the facts when only a slim clue is available. It is the same sort of thing that makes people stay up nights reading mystery stories, or listen to the "tracer of lost persons" program on the radio. When you read through the pages of names of the Velde branch of the family in the first section of this book or the last chapters of Section III, remember that for a long, long time my only available clue on this branch was that Osmund Veldey had gone from Norway to Minnesota. Date and vicinity were unknown.

A second reason for this genealogical interest is the natural tie-in with history, geography, and travel. The wars of nations, the depression periods, the migrations of peoples, the struggles of pioneers, all become real, and double in interest when you discover that your own grandparents lived through them. And how one's knowledge and appreciation of natural geography is deepened through contacts with relatives! Here is a farmer on a Norwegian Fjord, there a trapper in remote Montana mountains, here a captain on a coast steamer, there a rancher in Arizona. Letters from cousins in such diversified areas are of course interesting, and if you are privileged to visit some of them on a vacation trip, then indeed you have something to remember.

This aspect of family history hunting introduces a third which is sometimes called "the human equation". This is an important reason for interest in genealogy because it provides an advantage over many other spare time pursuits. Everyone has a friend who is either a stamp collector, a coin collector, a collector of salt and pepper shakers, or what not. I often jokingly tell my collector acquaintances: Oh I don't collect just a bunch of inanimate objects. I collect something interesting. I collect people! They can tell me stories, argue politics, and even invite me to dinner. The personnel manager of one of the world's great businesses once reported saying to himself: "B—, you're one of the luckiest men I know. Your full-time job is [working with] people."

The thrill of making discoveries is another inducement to the compiling of a family history. Like many discoveries, they are often completely unexpected. The morning's mail may bring a surprise letter from a cousin written to three years before and one on whom you had given up hope as a source of information. You may visit a family re-

union and find an old timer who, without warning, gives you a clue to a family for whom you had been hunting for years. You may be in a library browsing through an historical treatise and suddenly run across the name of an ancestor. That is a real thrill.

A fifth and final reason for my genealogical interest and the writing of this book, may be termed the satisfaction of assembly and completion. This is one of the most basic of human enjoyments and needs no real explanation. The working out of the charts of relationship in Section I has provided much the same sort of satisfaction as the popular pastime of working jig-saw and cross-word puzzles. Of course there are still many blanks on these charts just as there are points of uncertainty in Section III, but I feel that from a practical standpoint the Ikdal History is complete. To work another twelve years would not add sufficient information to offset the absence of younger generation material arising in the interim; or to offset the loss of opportunity for enjoyment of the work by those older generations who might pass in the meantime, and who are the ones best able to appreciate it now.

"How do you go about writing a family history anyhow?", "Where do you start?", "How was the Ikdal Family History written?". Very frequently I am asked these questions.

Well the best answer is that, like Topsy, it just grew. The start was made just as it should be for any family history, with the nearest source of information obtainable, that is, one's grandparent or parent. From then on it was a matter of calling on relatives, writing letters, and doing research work in the public libraries. The personal visits, as already indicated, were made during the course of my annual vacation trips through the West, where most of the Ikdals reside, on one trip to New England and on a trip to Europe. I made a special point of calling on the oldest cousins first and spending as much time with them as possible in order to secure all the oldest stories and traditions. Then there were the names to collect -- hundreds of names -- 2,700 to be exact. And for each of these I made a special effort to get middle names also; and thus the book is a veritable gold mine of name combinations. So when that new baby arrives take a look in the family history and ten to one you'll find a name to suit your taste, whether you want a fancy one like "Ellayne Tolora" or a commonplace "Dorothy May".

While most of these names and ancestral stories were collected by numerous personal visits, the writing of several hundred personal letters and postcards was also necessary. Letters involved the designing and use of both standard paragraphs explaining why the information was wanted, and carefully worded questionnaires. For merely to write and ask Second Cousin Emily to write you what she remembers about her grandparents, is almost as bad as not writing her at all. In the first place she probably won't answer, and in the second place, if she does answer, she will undoubtedly say that she just doesn't remember anything of interest but that if you write Cousin Susie, she might know. On the other hand, if you specifically ask Emily where her grandfather was born, when he was born, when he was married, etc., you may get some information. (However don't forget to put "month" and "day" in parenthesis after "when", or you may only get the year). Of course even when you have designed a proper letter, don't expect an answer for at least two coons' ages; not because Emily isn't interested in family history -- people almost always are interested -- but because -- well, you know how you are about getting around to answer letters. Several follow-up postcards and letters or even a personal call may be necessary to secure the needed information.

We have mentioned library research as the fourth method used in compiling the Ikdal Family History. While there are not many books available as there would be for an old well-established colonial family, yet our Norwegian and Norwegian-American historians have not been idle. The books referred to in the footnotes have been consulted either at Chicago's Newberry Library -- the world's greatest genealogical library, or at New Hampshire's Dartmouth College Library. In books from the latter, Jeannette Mather Lord has done most of the book research for the Aursland branch of the family. She has also gleaned a great deal of information from the old Aursland letters.

HOW TO USE THIS BOOK

The family tree shown in the front of this book shows the four oldest known generations of the family. The main trunk is the first generation, the three smaller trunks, are the second generation, the branches are the third generation, and the twigs, the fourth. The tree is worthy of your attention for by it, you will be able to figure 1st and 2nd cousin relationships existing among our forefathers.

On the tree, as well as elsewhere in this book, the abbreviation "m" means "married". Bearing in mind that relatives of the blood are always given first in any listing of husband and wife, a brief examination of the family tree will show that since Guttorm Erland and Martha Ikdal are brother and sister, their children are 1st cousins and their grandchildren 2nd cousins. For example Osmund Meling in the upper left part of the tree is a first cousin of Segve Sandvik in the lower right. Osmund's daughter, Ann Danielson, is a second cousin of Segve's daughter, Karen Serine Tysvaer. As a second example, Maren Hundsnes (nee Musland) at the lower left is a first cousin of the Seri Lindanger (nee Sandvik) shown at the right side of the tree. Their children Maren Kallecod and Maren Karena Yrke are of course second cousins.

The names on the family tree may be confusing if you are not familiar with the Norwegian custom of taking the name of the farm on which a family may be living and with the customs of "Americanizing" Norwegian names. You may wonder how Osmund Meling can be a brother of Eli Musland, while their parents are Guttorm Erland and Maren Musland and Guttorm's father was called Ikdal. The answer is simply that Guttorm Erland was born on the farm Ikdal but moved to Musland, his wife's farm, and here his children were born with the last name of Musland. Guttorm later moved with his family to Erland and spent most of his life there, so we naturally show him on the family tree as Guttorm Erland. His son Osmund Musland Erland, however, went to live on Meling so he became Osmund Meling. Now later Osmund came to America and acquired an American name. Since he was the son of Guttorm, or Guttorm's son, and since the American name for Guttorm is Thomas, Osmund took the name Thomas' son or Thomason. Some of his children are therefore shown on the family tree as "Meling", others as "Thomason". depending on whether they lived in Norway or America.

On the tree the women of the fourth generation, if they married, are listed by their married names. All children, of whatever generation are listed from oldest to youngest in order of age according to their position on the trunk or branch of the tree. For example, on the lower left branch Guttorm Hundsnes is older than Burnla Olson and she in turn is older than Karena Topnes, her mother's oldest child by her second husband, Tollef Tollefson Kallecod.

The first eleven pages of names in Section I of the history repeat in simple outline form, the names of the 2nd to 4th generations as shown on the family tree. These pages also add the fifth generation. All the names on the right side of the page are the wives or husbands of the Ikdal descendants of the blood, as they are listed on the left side. The 2nd generation is shown in capital letters at the top of each page, and the 3rd generation underneath in small letters and underlined. The 4th generation are listed in order thereafter, and their children (the 5th generation) indented underneath them.

To illustrate relationships let us take the example used above for the family tree. Osmund Meling is at the top of page 8 and his 7th child, Ann Danielson, near the top of the following page. Segve Sandvik is at the top of page 10 and his 6th child, Karen Serine Tysvaer, on the first line of page 11. Osmund and Segve are first cousins. If Ann and Karen are 2nd cousins, their children -- e.g., Martin Danielson and Kristofa Gjerde -- are 3rd cousins. One of Martin's great aunts is Ellen Erickson at the top of page 7 and Martha Sandvik at the top of page 10 is a great-great aunt.

For names on the same page, relationships are more easily determinable. To illustrate, on page 10, the mother and father of Laura Richardson Thorpe (line 12) are Anna Martha Segvesdatter and Lars Iverson

Bjoland (Hattestad). Laura's maternal grandparents are Segve Larson Sandvik and Bertha Serine Sjursdatter Hundsnes, and her great-grandparents are Martha Osmund(?)sdatter Ikdal and Lars Segveson Kaarhus(Sandvik). Seri and Bjoren Topnes are Laura's aunt and uncle and most of the people listed below her on the page are her first cousins.

In these first 11 pages and in subsequent pages of Section I all names in parentheses are those acquired subsequent to birth or baptism. A good example is William Olson near the bottom of page 2. He was born on the farm Munkhus as Vilum Gunderson Munkhus. Later his father moved to Valland and still later to Søvik. When the family came to America the elder Søvik decided to use his patronymic, Gunder Olson, and so Vilum became William Olson. However his older brother Ole decided to retain the farm name and called himself Ole Sevig.

On the pages following the first 11 that we have been discussing, the same general plan has been followed for the arrangement of all names in the Ikdal Family. Only the oldest two generations have been omitted from these pages. The names at the very top of each page are those of the 3rd. generation.

Let us suppose that you do not know a great deal about your forefathers and that you do not know the name of your great grandfather so that you can look for him on the chart. In Section IV of the book is an alphabetical index and there you may find your name or the name of your father if you are not the head of a family yourself. By way of illustration, suppose you are Phyllis Jean Watt. You look in the index and find your father's name indexed to page 23. Turning to page 23 you have no trouble in spotting your own name, your parents, grandparents, aunts, uncles, and cousins. You also see who your great-grandfather is, and who his parents and grandparents are. By this time you are at the top of the page and have therefore worked back to the 3rd generation as noted above. Now turn to the family tree. The trunk, as we said at the beginning, is the 1st generation, the smaller trunks the 2nd generation, and their branches the 3rd generations. Thus you have only 10 names to examine -- there are only 10 branches -- in order to find the name of your 3rd generation ancestor, Maren Musland, wife of Tormud Sjurson Hundsnes. Among the twigs on her branch you will recognize the name of her daughter Maren Kallecod, your great-great grandmother.

Should you like to see where your immediate forebear ranks in point of time among the family members coming to America, turn to pages 100-102. Here all emigrants are arranged according to the year of arrival.

Beside these statistics, Section II originally contained 12 pages of dates of birth, death, and marriage for members of the sixth and subsequent generations. Due to insufficient funds received for printing it was necessary to omit these pages. The size of the book, size of type, and type of cover were also dictated by the amount of funds.

In regard to Section III, the story part of the book, there is no index as to where your particular parent or grandparent is discussed. Nor will there be any indication in the chapter titles except in a few instances. This is in part by design, for to do otherwise would be to work an injustice to both the book and the reader. Every page is part of our collective family tradition. To direct you to a certain page might cause you to overlook some highly interesting stories elsewhere, such stories being necessary to provide the proper background for the story of your immediate ancestor.

Ideally, then, you should start in at the beginning of Section III, get the setting, and read straight through. When you run across the name of a favorite progenitor, you will get the thrill of discovery. Meanwhile you may chart your course through the chapters by occasional reference to the family tree, and to the outline of names. The text follows the tree and the outline rather closely, the 1st and 2nd generations being considered together, then the 3rd generation, and finally the 4th and 5th generations.

So set your sails, cousin, and good reading!!

S E C T I O N I

O U T L I N E S O F R E L A T I O N S H I P

S E C O N D

T O

F I F T H

G E N E R A T I O N S

GUTTORM OSMUND(?)SON IKDAL (MUSLAND) (ERLAND) -- MAREN MUSLAND

1.Maren Guttormsdatter Musland (Erland) Tormud Sjurson Hundsnes

- 1.Sjur Tormudson Hundsnes
- 2.Serena Tormudsdatter Hundsnes
- 3.Maren Tormudsdatter Hundsnes Ole Tollefson Kallecod
(Ole Thompson)
- 1.Karena Olesdatter Kallecod Lars Nilson Slogvik
(Kallecod)
- 2.Maren Olesdatter Kallecod Lars Knutson Narrevik
(Stensvik)
- 3.Brunla Olesdatter Kallecod John Nelson Traelena
(John Nelson)
- 4.Tormud Oleson Kallecod
(Tormud O. Thompson) Malinda Bergeson
- 5.Tollef Oleson Kallecod
(Tollef O. Thompson) Martha Sarah Knudson
- 6.Syvert Olaus Oleson Kallecod
(Syvert O. Thompson) Isabelle Hanson
- 7.Berta Serena Olesdatter Kallecod
(Bertha Thompson) Knud Solvason Ugland
- 8.Metta Helena Olesdatter Kallecod
(Meta Thompson)
- 4.Guttorm Tormudson Hundsnes Malinda Eriksdatter Sandvik
- 1.Maren Serena Guttormsdatter Hundsnes Nels Aanenson Slogvik Oddnes
- 2.Johanna Guttormsdatter Hundsnes ... Kolben Kolbenson Hervik II
- 3.Tormud Guttormson Hundsnes Margreta Gudmundsdatter
Bakkevik
- 4.Erik Guttormson Hundsnes Maren Serena Larsdatter
Stensvik
- Metta Helena Larsdatter
Stensvik
- 5.Sevrine Guttormson Hundsnes
(Severin G. Thompson) Elsie Johnson
- 5.Burnla Tormudsdatter Hundsnes Stender Oleson Kallecod
(Stender Olson)
- 1.Severen Stenderson Olson
- 2.Antonetta Marie Stendersdatter
Olson
- 3.Stena Burdina Gurina Emalina
Stendersdatter Olson
- 4.Theodore Stenderson Olson

Maren Guttormsdatter Musland (Erland) Tollef Tollefson Kallecod
(Hundsnes)

- 6.Karena Tollefsdatter Hundsnes Bjoren Bjorenson Topnes II
- 1.Knute Bjorenson Topnes
- 2.Maren Bjorensdatter Topnes Ole _____son Amdal (Topnes)
- 3.Randi Bjorensdatter Topnes _____son _____
- 4.Seri Bjorensdatter Topnes _____son Hapnes
- 7.Serena Tollefsdatter Hundsnes Albert Albertson Oskeland
- 1?Albert Albertson Oskeland _____datter _____
- 2._____ Albertsdatter Oskeland
- 3._____ Albertsdatter Oskeland
- 4._____ Albertsdatter Oskeland

GUTTORM OSMUND(?)SON IKDAL (MUSLAND) (ERLAND) -- MAREN MUSLAND

2.Seri Guttormsdatter Musland (Erland) Vilum Vilumson Erland II

1. Infant daughter*
2. _____ Vilumsdatter Erland
3. Vilum Vilumson Erland III Cecila _____sdatter Aursland
 1. Serena Vilumsdatter Erland Mocton (Hans?) _____son Mortveit
 2. Vilum Vilumson Erland IV Malene Baarsdatter Egge
 3. Lars Vilumson (Erland) Vaggeli Karena Roaldsdatter Grinde
 Martha _____sdatter Amdal
 Cecila Sjursdatter Akland
 4. Halvor Vilumson Erland (Aakland) .. Enga _____sdatter _____
 5. Severt Vilumson Erland (Kreppene-
 Krapo) (Ure) (Erland) .. _____son _____
 6. Ellen Marie Vilumsdatter Erland ... Ingebret Johnneson Erland
4. Maren Vilumsdatter Erland
 1. Johannes Ingebretson Erland
 2. Vilum Ingebretson Erland (Dalestrantu)
 3. Serena Ingebretsdatter Erland
 4. Gudmund Ingebretson Erland
 5. Ivar Ingebretson Erland
 6. Maren Ingebretsdatter Erland Vilum Vilumson Erland
 Halleland
 7. Ingebret Ingebretson Erland
 8. Ole Ingebretson Erland
 9. Jakob Ingebretson Erland
 10?
5. Lars Vilumson Erland (Egge) Karen _____sdatter Vaare(Egge)
 1. Maren Larsdatter Egge Erik _____son Tveit (Egge)
 2. Lina Larsdatter Egge Torstein _____son Nygard
 3. Karen Larsdatter Egge Karl Johan _____son Hoie
 4. Laurentsa Larsdatter Egge Even _____son Risanger
 5. Ingeborg Larsdatter Egge
 6. Andreas Larson Egge
6. Guttorm Vilumson Erland (Frovik) Olea _____sdatter _____
 1. Karen Serena Guttormsdatter Frovik Lars Larson Vaagen
 2. Maren Johanna Guttormsdatter Frovik David Larson Eggesdal
 (Dave Olson)
 3. Vilum Guttormson Frovik (Tveit).... Olene Olesdatter Tveit
 (Hokel) Martha Pedersdatter Liarabben
 4. Sina Olina Guttormsdatter Frovik .. John Larson Sagen (Ostrom)
 (Tveit)
 5. Gina Olea Guttormsdatter Frovik ...
7. Anna Serena Vilumsdatter Erland Gunder Oleson Egge (Sovik)
 (Munkhus)(Valland) (G.Olson)
 1. Ole Gunderson Munkhus(Valland)(Sovik) Bertha Hendriksdatter Egge
 (Ole Sevig) (Bertha Hendrickson)
 2. Vilum Gunderson Munkhus (Valland) Boletta Anstensdatter
 (Sovik) (William Olson) Erickson
 3. Baar Gunderson Valland (Sovik) Caroline J _____Johnson
 (Barney Olson) Knute Oleson Maaland (Knute
 (Sovik) (Bertha Olson) Knutson) (Knute Molan)
 5. Hendrik Gunderson Sovik(Henry Olson)
 6. Sarah Ellen Gundersdatter Sovik Erik S.Sampson (Ira Sampson)
 (Sarah Olson)
 7. Gunder Gunderson Sovik
 (George Olson)

3. Eli Guttormsdatter Musland (Erland)
(Ellen Erickson) Erik Nelson Tveit (Aursland)

1? Infant*

2? Infant*

3. Nels Erikson Aursland Marie _____ sdatter _____
1. Rangva Nelson _____ sdatter _____
2. Torkild Nelson (Aursland) _____ sdatter _____
3. Gaude Nelson Øritzland _____ sdatter _____
4. Erik Nelson _____ sdatter _____
Nels Erikson Aursland _____ sdatter _____

4. Inga Eriksdatter Aursland (Inga Olson) Ole Gunderson Stakkestad
1. Serena Olesdatter Stakkestad Haakon Turben Anderson
Valders (H.T. Anderson)
2. Tollak Oleson Stakkestad Marie H. _____ sdatter Jephthine
(Tollag Olson) Gjertsen (Mary E. Mastin)
3. Guner Olson Stakkestad Bertha Samsdatter? Sorvaag
(Guner Olson) (Bertha Sampson?)
Ellen Hansdatter Groenstad
(Ellen Hanson?)

4. Martha Olesdatter Stakkestad
(Martha Olson)

5. Ingeborg (Isabel) Olesdatter
Stakkestad

5. Guttorm Erikson Aursland Gunla Sarah Persdatter Neset
(Thomas Erickson) (Julia Pearson)

1. Ellen Erickson

2. Caroline Erickson

6. Maren Eriksdatter Aursland Jacob Rosdail
Knute Samson Fjelle (Aspeland)
(Stakkestad) (Sampson K. Sampson)

1. Knute Knuteson Stakkestad Caroline Eriksdatter Coltveit
(Knute S. Sampson) Laura Samuelson

2. Erik Knuteson Stakkestad Sarah Ellen Gundersdatter
(Ira S. Sampson) Sovik (Sarah Olson)

3. Martha Elizabeth Knutesdatter Andrew H. Anderson
Stakkestad (Martha Sampson)

4. Ellen Serena Knutesdatter Stakke- Endre _____ son Taug
stad (Ellen Sampson) (Andrew Tow)

5. Bertha Maria Knutesdatter Jeremiah Anderson
Stakkestad (Betsey Sampson)

6. Guttorm Knuteson Stakkestad William E. Williamson

7. Serena Olena Sampson
7. Erik Erikson Aursland (Erick Erickson)
8. Eli Serena Eriksdatter Aursland (Sarah) Ole Nelson Storesund (Ole N.)
John Hanson Ostenstad (John H.)
Susan Smith Chentland

1. Nels Oleson Storesund (Nels O. Nelson) Rachel Bergeson
2. Amelia Inger Nelson Isabelle Annette Anderson
3. Hans Ole Hanson Peder Aadneson Egeland
(Peter Egeland)
4. Ira Hanson
5. Anna Matilda Hanson
6. Henry Martin Hanson

9. Anna Martha Eriksdatter Aursland Anders Knudson Waethe
(Andrew Knudson)

1. Eli (Ellen) Knudson Samuel Mather

2. Erik Cornelius Knudson (Edward K.)
3. Sarah Ann Knudson Frank C. Christianson
(Christian)

4. Maren Knudson (Mary Knudson) Charles Jennings Mather

GUTTORM OSMUND(?)SON IKDAL (MUSLAND) (ERLAND) -- MAREN MUSLAND

4.Osmund Guttormson Musland (Erland)		
(Meling) (Osmund Thomason)	Bertha Mattiasdatter Sorvaag	
1.Mary Osmundsatter Erland (Meling)	Maas Maason Ege	
(Mary Thomason)	(Mads Madison)	
1.Anna Madison	Andrew Christian	
	Seth Woodward	
	John G. McFadden	
2.Bertha Madison	Joseph Smith II	
3.Martin Madison	Ellen Danielson	
4.Mary Ann Madison		
5.Mary Ann Madison		
6.Osmund Madison	Alice Baxter	
7.Mary Amelia Madison	Hosea Kenyon	
8.Josephine Louise Madison		
2.Guttorm Osmundson Erland (Meling)	Torbjor (Tabitha) Agent	
(Thomas Thomason)		
1.Infant son*		
2?Francis Thomason	_____	_____
3?Sarah Thomason	_____	_____
4?Thomas Thomason		Flinders
5?Martha M_____ Thomason		
6?Emery J_____ Thomason		
7?Emily J_____ Thomason		
8?Charlotte _____ Thomason	_____	Scribner
9?Addie Thomason		
10?Infant daughter		
11?Eunice E_____ Thomason		
12?Ella _____ Thomason	Charles Kellogg	
3.Erik Osmundson Erland (Meling)	Mary Ander(?)sdatter	
(Ira Thomason)	Brainerd	
1.Emma _____ Thomason	Palmer Fisk Kinney	
2.Benjamin Thomason		
3.Otis Thomason		
4.Isabelle Eva Thomason	Henry McLean Hopewell	
5.Henry Oscar Thomason	Lillian _____ Dripps	
6.Edward Spurgeon Thomason		
7.Ida Mary Thomason		
8.Seward Lincoln Thomason		
9.Andrew Elmer Thomason	Angeline Julia Pierce	
10.Alice Irene Thomason	Clifford Sampson Laughlin	
11.Walter Brainard Thomason	Mary _____ Hornibrook	
12.Grace Madelle Thomason	John Russell Hitchings	
4.Osmund Osmundson Erland (Meling)	Gunla Torosdatter Groendame	
(Osmund Thomason Jr.)	(Julia Gunderson)	
1.Ellen Bertha Thomason	Christian F. Hayer	
2.Franklin Osmund Thomason	Bertha Williamson	
3.Henry Mathias Thomason	Lydia Martha Harris	
4.William Arthur Thomason	Jennie Herron	
5.David Alexander Thomason		
6.Lydia Olive Juliette Thomason		

GUTTORM OSMUND(?)SON IKDAL (MUSLAND) (ERLAND) -- MAREN MUSLAND

4.Osmund Guttormson Musland (Erland)
 (Meling) (Osmund Thomason) Bertha Mattiasdatter Sorvaag

5.Mattias Osmundson Meling	
6.Mattias Osmundson Meling	
7.Anne Osmundsdatter Meling	Krist Kristenson Walde
(Anne Thomason)	(Christopher Danielson)
1.Martin Jacob Danielson	Julia Marie Hayer
2.Daniel Christopher Danielson	Ellen Holverson
	Margaret Woods
3.Bertha Ann Danielson	Lorenzo Hayer
4.Osmund Mathias Danielson	Carrie Larson
5.Ida May Danielson	Charles Hayer
6.Edward Almer Danielson	Anna Malinda Anderson
7.David Nathaniel Danielson	Carrie Jane Weld
8.Mary Emma Jane Danielson	Anders Knutson Gaard
	(Andrew K. Gaard)
9.Joseph Clarence Danielson	Hattie _____ Rush
8.Mattias Osmundson Meling	
(Mathias Thomason)	
9.Mathias Thomason	

MARTHA OSMUND(?)SDATTER IKDAL -- LARS SEGVESON KAARHUS (SANDVIK)

1.Segve Larson Sandvik - - - - Bertha Serine Sjursdatter Hundsnes

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1. Anna Martha Segvesdatter Sandvik | Lars Iverson Bjoland
(Hattestad) |
| 1. Martha Larsdatter Hattestad | |
| 2. Bertha Serena Larsdatter Hattestad | Johannes _____ son Froland
(John Farland) |
| 3. Iver Christian Larson Hattestad ... | Lovise Stangeland |
| 4. Sonneva Larsdatter Hattestad | Sakarias _____ son Torisdal |
| 5. Segve Larson Hattestad
(Segve Iverson) | Ellen Jacobs |
| 6. Laura Larsdatter Hattestad | Andrew A _____ Richardson
Emery Loomis Thorpe |
| 7. Syvert Larson Hattestad | Marthille Sophia Stangeland |
| 8. Martin Laurias Larson Hattestad ... | Sophia Mitchell |
| 2. Lars Segveson Sandvik | |
| 3. Osmund Segveson Sandvik (Espevik)
(Sandvik) | Oline Olesdatter Lindanger |
| 1. Segve Osmundson Espevik | |
| 2. Ole Osmundson Espevik (Sandvik) ... | Gurine Gudmundsdatter Bak-
kevik |
| 3. Gudmund Osmundson Espevik (Sandvik) | Anne Holgersdatter Bjelland |
| 4. Bertha Serine Osmundsdatter
Espevik? (Sandvik) | Lars Gudmundson Bakkevik |
| 5. Segve Osmundson Espevik? (Sandvik) | |
| 6. Seri Osmundsdatter Espevik?
(Sandvik) | Lars Holgerson Leiranger |
| 7. Marthe Margrethe Osmundsdatter
Sandvik? | Jens _____ son Topnes |
| 8. Osmine Osmundsdatter Sandvik | |
| 4. Seri Segvesdatter Sandvik | Bjoren Bjorenson Topnes II
Gudmund Gudmundson Landraak |
| 1. Berthe Serine Bjorensdatter Topnes | |
| 2. Bjoren Bjorenson Topnes III | |
| 3. Gurine Bjorensdatter Topnes | Bardenes _____ son Hervik
_____ son Klungtveit |
| 4. Sofie Bjorensdatter Topnes | Anne Oline Olesdatter
(Sortveit) |
| 5. Gudmund Lars Segveson Sandvik
(Espevik) | Peter Mortenson Borgenvik
Holger Holgerson Leiranger
(Mjolsnes) |
| 1. Bertha Serina Larsdatter Espevik .. | Osmund Surensen Sortveit
(Nortveit) |
| 2. Guri Larsdatter Espevik | Torger Knuteson Borganvik
(Espevik) |
| 3. Olava Larsdatter Espevik | _____ sdatter Vik |
| 4. Sigvalda Larsdatter Espevik | Petra Petersdatter Nortveit |
| 5. Gudmund Larson Espevik | |
| 6. Lars Andreas Larson Espevik | |
| 7. Ole Kornelius Larson Espevik | |
| 8. Kaia Oline Larsdatter Espevik
(Olene Espevik) | Andreas Oskarson Leiranger
(Andrew Leranger) |

MARTHA OSMUND(?)SDATTER IKDAL -- LARS SEGVESON KAARHUS (SANDVIK)

1.Segve Larson Sandvik - - - - Bertha Serine Sjursdatter Hundsnes

6.Karen Serine Segvesdatter Sandvik	Segve Segveson Hervik (Tysvaer)
1.Sine Segvesdatter Tysvaer	Peder Torbjornson Klovning (Tysvaer) (Klovaa) _____sdatter _____
2?Segve Segveson Tysvaer	
3?Ludvig Segveson Tysvaer	
4?Sigvald Segveson Tysvaer	Dorothea Danielsdatter Opeland
5.Kristofa Segvesdatter Tysvaer	Lars Sjurson Gjerde
6.Stenert Segveson Tysvaer (Klovaa) (Gjerde)	Omine Sjursdatter Gjerde
7.Karl Segveson Tysvaer (Klovaa) (Klovning)	
8.Gunvald Segveson Tysvaer	_____sdatter _____
9.Berger Segveson Tysvaer	Anne? Svensdatter Ginsmervik
7.Syvert Segveson Sandvik (Klovning- Loning) (Sandvik) (Landraak)	Martha Helena Johannesdatter Lindanger
1.Bertha Serine Syvertsdatter Sandvik	Peter Bjornson Landraak
2.Seri Syvertsdatter Sandvik	Halvor _____son Holien
3.Segve Syvertson Sandvik (Sigve Sivertsen)	Karen Adolphsdatter Sandvik (Karen Carlson)
4.Stine Gurine Syvertsdatter Klovning-Loning (Sandvik)	Olaf Gabrielson
5.Johannesine Syvertsdatter Klov- ning-Loning (Sandvik)(Landraak)	
6.Johannes Syvertson Sandvik?	Sofie Kristophersdatter Kallecod
7.Lars Syvertson Sandvik	
8.Marthe Margrethe Severine Syvertsdatter Sandvik	Albert Dahl
9.Olava Osmunda Syvertsdatter Sandvik	Osten Holgerson Hetland
8.Marthe Margrethe (Mette) Segvesdatter Sandvik	Lars Bergeson Amdal (Lars Amdahl)
1.Segve Larson Amdal (Sigve Amdahl) .	Anna Severina Valvatne
2.Berge Larson Amdal (Berge Amdahl) .	Margrethe (Margaret) Torske
3.Marthe Larsdatter Amdal (Martha Amdahl)	Thorwald Watland
4.Berthe Serine Larsdatter Amdal (Bertha Serena Amdahl)	John J _____ Rendahl
5.Borge Severin Larson Amdal (Bert Amdahl)	Florence _____ Adams
6.Lars Mandius Larson Amdal	Ella Morgan
7.Mette Margrethe Larsdatter Amdal ..	Olaf A _____ Sterry
8.Laura Josefine Larsdatter Amdal ...	Clyde Ridenour
9.Kaia Lovise Larsdatter Amdal (Carrie Amdal)	Louris Rendahl
9? _____Segvesdatter Sandvik	

MARTHA OSMUND(?)SDATTER IKDAL -- LARS SEGVESON KAARHUS (SANDVIK)

2.Seri Larsdatter Sandvik - - - - - Ole son Lindanger

- 1.Gudmund Oleson Lindanger
- 2.Olena Olesdatter Lindanger Osmund Segveson Sandvik
(Espevik) (Sandvik)
 - 1.Segve Osmundson Espevik
 - 2.Ole Osmundson Espevik (Sandvik) ... Gurine Gudmundsdatter
Bakkevik
 - 3.Gudmund Osmundson Espevik (Sandvik) Anne Holgersdatter Bjelland
 - 4.Bertha Serine Osmundsdatter
Espevik? (Sandvik) Lars Gudmundson Bakkevik
 - 5.Segve Osmundson Espevik? (Sandvik)
 - 6.Seri Osmundsdatter Espevik?
(Sandvik) Lars Holgerson Leiranger
 - 7.Marthe Margrethe Osmundsdatter
Sandvik? Jens _____son Topnes
 - 8.Osmine Osmundsdatter Sandvik

Seri Larsdatter Sandvik - - - - - Johannes son Lindanger

- 3.Maren Karena Johannesdatter Lindanger Nels Johanneson Yrke
 - 1.Johannes Nelson Yrke
(Johannes Orke) Annette _____ Englesen
 - 2.Johan Nelson Yrke (John Orke) Amanda Loraine Jurigina
Asautsdatter Bergeland
 - 3.Gudmund Nelson Yrke Siri Eriksdatter Lindanger
 - 4.Andreas Nelson Yrke (Andrew N.Orke) Marion _____ Akerstom
 - 5.Siri Nelsdatter Yrke
 - 6.Lauritz Nelson Yrke Karine Hendriksdatter Strom
 - 7.Ole Nelson Yrke
- 4.Lars Johanneson Lindanger Anna Marie (Marthe)
Johannesdatter Yrke
 - 1.Johannes Larson Lindanger
 - 2.Siri (Sigrid) Larsdatter Lindanger Kristen Holgerson Ostenstad
 - 3.Anna Larsdatter Lindanger Jakob Jakobson Svenelid
 - 4.Anna Gurine Larsdatter Lindanger .. Peder Tonnison Soiland
 - 5.Johannes Larson Lindanger
 - 6.Marthe Larsdatter Lindanger
 - 7.Laura Josefine Larsdatter Lindanger Peder Aadson Hagen
 - 8.Lena Marie Larsdatter Lindanger ... Halvor _____son Urrang
 - 9.Karoline Margrethe Larsdatter
Lindanger Severin _____son Hetland

MARTHA OSMUND(?)SDATTER IKDAL -- LARS SEGVESON KAARHUS (SANDVIK)

2.Seri Larsdatter Sandvik - - - - Johannes son Lindanger

- 5.Martha Helena Johannesdatter Lindanger Syvert Segveson Sandvik
(Klovning-Loning) (Sandvik)
- 1.Bertha Serine Syvertsdatter Sandvik Peter Bjornson Landraak
- 2.Seri Syvertsdatter Sandvik Halvor _____ son Holien
- 3.Segve Syvertson Sandvik Karen Adolphsdatter Sandvik
(Sigve Sivertsen) (Karen Carlson)
- 4.Stene Gurine Syvertsdatter Olaf Gabrielson
Klovning-Loning (Sandvik)
- 5.Johannesine Syvertsdatter Klovning-Loning (Sandvik)
- 6.Johannes Syvertson Sandvik? Sofie Kristofersdatter
Kallecod
- 7.Lars Syvertson Sandvik
- 8.Marthe Margrethe Severine Syvertsdatter Sandvik Albert Dahl
- 9.Olava Osmunda Syvertsdatter Sandvik Osten Holgerson Hetland
- 6.Serine Johannesdatter Lindanger Erik Erikson Lindanger II
- 1.Erik Erikson Lindanger III
- 2.Seri Eriksdatter Lindanger Gudmund Nelson Yrke
- 3.Johannes Erikson Lindanger
- 4.Gudmund Erikson Lindanger
5. _____ Lindanger
6. _____ Lindanger
7. _____ Lindanger
- 8.Emil Erikson Lindanger
- 7.Agnete Johannesdatter Lindanger Sigve Sigveson Stolsvik
- 1?Lina Sigvesdatter Stolsvik G _____ E _____ Bach
- 2?Josefine Sigvesdatter Stolsvik Albert Rasmussen
- 3? _____ Stolsvik
- 4?Sigvald Sigveson Stolsvik
- 5?Johannes Sigveson Stolsvik
- 6? _____ Stolsvik
- 8.Gudmund Johanneson Lindanger _____ sdatter _____
1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____

*** **

3.Osmund Larson Sandvik

4. Eli Larsdatter Sandvik - - - - Gudmund Torgerson Lindanger Velde

1. Sigrid Gudmundsdatter Velde
2. Marthe Serine Gudmundsdatter Velde ... Jens Jonson Haarde
 1. Jon Jenson Haarde (John Hardy) Tilla Hanson
 2. Gudmund Jenson Haarde (Gudmund Hardy) Mary McKinley
 3. Jens Jenson Haarde (Jens Hardy) ...
 4. Serine Jensdatter Haarde (Serena Hardy)
 5. Lars Jenson Haarde Mari Aadnesdatter Skaalnes
 6. Ole Jenson Haarde (Ole Hardy) Inger Augusta Gilbertson
 7. Osmund Jenson Haarde Maria Johannesdatter Haarde
 _____sdatter _____
 Malena Ingebretsdatter _____
 _____Haualand
 8. Gurine Jensdatter Haarde Guner Guner(?)son Helleland
3. Laurenca Gudmundsdatter Velde Nels Kristenson Urdal
 1. Gudmund Nelson Urdal (Gudmund Urdahl) Anna Olson
 2. Kristen Nelson Urdal
 (Christian Urdahl) Hilleborg Rauberg
 3. Lauris Nelson Urdal (Lars Urdal) ...
 4. Sigurd Nelson Urdal
 5. Peder Andreas Nelson Urdal Mary _____ Peterson
 6. Ella Serine Nelsdatter Urdal Gudmund Torgerson Velde
 7. Sessela Marie Nelsdatter Urdal Jakob Bernhard Oleson Nasheim
 (Bernard Nasheim)
 8. Lauris Nelson Urdal (Lars Urdal) ..
 9. Osmund Nelson Urdal Petra Rothe
 10. Freddy Nickolai Urdal Mabel Norheim
 11. Laurenca Amanda Urdal
 12. Inga Adelia Urdal
4. Torger Gudmundson Velde Kari Olesdatter Bjoa
 1. Serena Torgersdatter Velde
 2. Gudmund Torgerson Velde Ella Serine Nelsdatter Urdal
 Lisa Elida Enevoldsdatter
 Stangeland (Christenson) (Lien)
 3. Ole Lauris Torgerson Velde Serena Anderson
 4. Karen Maria Torgersdatter Velde
 (Maria Olava Torgersdatter Velde) Martin Teodor Martinson Haga
 (Alfsnes) (Haga)
 5. Faltin Olai Torgerson Velde Ellen Sevirine Ivarsdatter
 Foein
 6. Serena Torgersdatter Velde
 7. Osmund Amiel Torgerson Velde Clara O _____ Johnson
 8. Thea Karena Torgersdatter Velde ... Ernest Calvin Daby
 - Torger Gudmundson Velde Valborg Reinert(?)sdatter
 _____Nerheim
5. Osmund Gudmundson Velde (Osmund Veldey) Kjersdina Tonnisdatter Gilje
 (Dena Hanson)
 1. Enok Godtfred Veldey
 2. Tedlef Amandius Veldey Salla _____ Dille
 3. Lauritz Olia Veldey (Lewis Veldey)
 4. Henry Martinus Veldey
 5. Ella Adelia Veldey
 6. Henry Martinus Veldey Hilda _____ Gulickson
 7. Selmer Ferdinan Veldey
 8. Enok Godtfred Veldey Helga Torgersdatter Tweedt
 9. Ella Adelia Veldey Charles E _____ Stevenson
 10. Selmer Ferdinan Veldey Lucille _____ Chalderman
 11. Cleford Oliver Veldey Margaret Hazel Towner
 12. Esther Kornelia Veldey Richard _____ Wickham

4.Eli Larsdatter Sandvik - - - - Gudmund Torgerson Lindanger Velde

6. Anna Karina Gudmundsdatter Velde	Paul Kristenson Urdal
1. Gudmund Paulson Urdal	_____sdatter _____
	_____sdatter _____
2. Cecilia Paulsdatter Urdal	Hendrik Stenson Urdal
3. Serine Paulsdatter Urdal	Ole Oleson Londe
4. Maria Paulsdatter Urdal	Peder Sjurson Velde
5. Kristenson Paulson Urdal	Anne _____sdatter Gjerde
6. Peder Paulson Urdal	_____sdatter Gjerde
7. Lovisa Paulsdatter Urdal	Kolbein Gunnarson Sandnes
8. Anna Paulsdatter Urdal	Hans Iverson Vestvold
7. Eli Serine Gudmundsdatter Velde	Sjur Jakobson Krakk
1. _____ Sjurdsatter Krakk	Elias Faltinson Elleflot
2. _____ Sjurdsatter Krakk	_____son Ostrom
3. _____ Sjurdsatter Krakk	
4. _____ Sjurdsatter Krakk	
5. Jakob Sjurson Krakk	_____sdatter _____
6. _____ Sjurdsatter Krakk	
8. Lars Gudmundson Velde	

Eli Larsdatter Sandvik (Velde) - - - Faltin Faltinson Elleflot

JOHANNES OSMUND(?)SON IKDAL -- _____SDATTER _____

1. Jakob Johanneson Ikdal - - - - _____sdatter _____

1? Johannes Jakobson Ikdal
2? _____ Jakobson Ikdal

2? Seri Johannesdatter Ikdal - - - _____son Straatveit

T H I R D

A N D

S U B S E Q U E N T

G E N E R A T I O N S

1. Maren Guttormsdatter Musland (Erland)* (.....-....., 1872)
Tormud Sjurson Hundsnes* (.....-.....)
m. (.....) at, Norway
-

1. Sjur Tormudson Hundsnes* (.....-.....)
2. Serena Tormudsdatter Hundsnes* (.....-.....)
3. Maren Tormudsdatter Hundsnes* (Feb. 12, 1818-Jan. 15, 1871)
Ole Tollefson Kallecod (Ole Thompson)* (Oct. 20, 1806-Sept. 7, 1887)
m. (.....) at Tysvaer Church?, Norway
1. Karena Olesdatter Kallecod* (.....-.....)
Lars Nilson Slogvik (Kallecod)* (July 14, 1833-Aug. 4, 1923)
m. (.....) at, Norway
1. Mary Larsdatter Kallecod* m. Lars Larson Natterstad (Lars Larson)
1. Lyman Arthur Larson
2. Clarence Leroy Larson m. Clarice Evelyn Brewster
1. Mary Alice Larson
2. Evelyn Claire Larson
3. Robert Brewster Larson
2. Ole Nilson (Ole Kallecod)*
3. Nelle Nilson (Nellie Kallecod)*
4. Helge Matthias Nilson (Halleck Matthew Kallecod) m. Ivy Dunton
1. Dorothy May Kallecod
2. Ruth Irene Kallecod m. Elmer William Ellis
1. Irene Louise Ellis
5. Infant Kallecod*

1. Maren Guttormsdatter Musland (Erland) -- Tormud Sjurson Hundsnes

3. Maren Tormudsdatter Hundsnes & Ole Tollefson Kallecod Family continued:

2. Maren Olesdatter Kallecod* (.....-.....)

Lars Knutson Narrevik (Steinsvik)* (.....-.....)
m. (.....) at Kallecod, Tysvaer Sogn, Norway

1. Ellen Marie Larsdatter Steinsvik m. Andrew Swanson*

1. Arthur Leander Swanson m. Marguerite _____ Klass

2. Maren Serena Larsdatter Steinsvik m. Erik Guttormson Hundsnes*
(1st cousins, once removed)

1. Guttorm Erikson Hundsnes m. _____ satter _____

1. _____ Guttormson Hundsnes

2. _____ Guttormson Hundsnes

3. _____ Guttormson Hundsnes

4. _____ Guttormson Hundsnes

3. Ole Ludvig Larson Steinsvik*

4. Karen Serena (Cora) Larsdatter Steinsvik* m. Solva _____ Ugland*

1. Harold S. Ugland m. Lucille _____ Grandgeorge (div.?)
rem. Bernice _____ Bernard

5. Metta Helena Larsdatter Steinsvik m. Erik Guttormson Hundsnes*
(1st cousins, once removed)

2. Magnus Erikson Hundsnes m?

3. Lars Erikson Hundsnes m?

4. Melvin Erikson Hundsnes m?

5. Olaf Erikson Hundsnes m. _____ satter _____

6. Margaret Eriksdatter Hundsnes m?

6. Christopher Larson Steinsvik m. Karena Tollefsdatter Kallecod
(Karena's father's mother was a sister of Ole Kallecod)

1. Tollef Christopherson _____ m?

2. Lars Christopherson _____

3. Karena Christophersdatter _____ m. _____ Person _____
(His father lived on Vaagen Tysvaer Sogn)

7. Laura Martina Larsdatter Steinsvik m. Peter _____ Nelson

1. Theodore Morris Nelson m. Iona _____ Swanson

1. Kermit Ted Nelson

2. Peter Lawrence Nelson m. Sarah _____ Rasmus

1. Larry Dale Nelson (adopted)

3. Harry Peter Nelson m. Janette _____ Yrke

8. Johanna Bertina (Hanna) Larsdatter Steinsvik*

m. Abraham Anderson Amdahl*

1. Alfred _____ Amdahl m. Anna _____ Homme

1. Alfred Ronald Amdahl

2. Judith Arlene Amdahl

Johanna Bertina Larsdatter Steinsvik* rem. Andrew Anderson Amdahl

2. Clara Marie Amdahl m. Walter _____ Bentsen

1. Joann Orlene Bentsen

3. Agnes Louise Amdahl

4. Clifford _____ Amdahl m. Betty _____ Bradeen

1. Infant daughter*

5. Harold Arthur Amdahl

9. Karl Tobias Larson Steinsvik

1. Maren Guttormsdatter Musland (Erland) -- Tormud Sjurson Hundsnes

3. Maren Tormudsdtr Hundsnes & Ole Tollefson Kallecod Family, Continued:

3. Brunla Olesdatter Kallecod* (Feb. 6, 1845-Feb. 12, 1920)

John Nelson Traelena (John Nelson)* (May 15, 1840-Feb. 14, 1920)
m. (Apr. 28, 1868) at Tysvaer Church, Norway

1. Celia Malinda Tobina (Mollie) Nelson m. Charles Reel*

1. Virgil Russel Reel m. Agnes _____ Johnson

1. Gladys Ione Reel

2. Ellis Rodney Reel

3. Phyllis _____ Reel

4. Jean Olive Reel

5. Virginia Reel

6. Evans _____ Reel*

7. Irene Clara Reel

8. Damen Charles Reel

2. Valerie Edith Reel*

3. Bernice Gladys Reel m. Roy _____ Schwartz (Div.)

1. Leonard Raymond Schwartz*

2. Opal Mae Schwartz m. Howard _____ Hines

Bernice Gladys Reel rem. Carl Engstrom

3. Pearl Marvella Engstrom

4. Irma Mae Reel m. Robert John McInturf

1. Emma Jewel McInturf

2. Nels Helmar (Henry) Nelson m. Annie Promelje Voega

1. Howard Arlen Nelson m. Judith Dagmar Twait

1. Joann Helene Nelson

2. Dolores Ann Nelson

3. Larry Howard Nelson

2. Joyce Berlene Nelson*

3. Floye Maxine Nelson m. Leo Franklin Grady

1. Lynn Elwyn Grady

2. Leila Rae Grady

3. Lylie Odelia Nelson

4. Berdie Jeannette Nelson m. Otto C _____ Serby

1. Illiotte Cleda Serby m. James Tuseau

2. Shirley LaVonne Serby

3. Lola Delight Serby

1. Maren Tormudsdatter Musland (Erland) -- Tormud Sjurson Hundsnes

3. Maren Tormudsdatter Hundsnes & Ole Tollefson Kallecod Family, continued:

4. Tormud Oleson Kallecod (Tormud O. Thompson) * (Aug. 11, 1847 - Sept. 30, 1940)

Malinda _____ Bergeson* (Dec. 17, 1855 - Mch. 26, 1928)

m. (Mch. 1, 1876) in Earl Twp., LaSalle Co., Illinois

1. Oscar Thompson*

2. Martin Oliver Thompson m. Julia _____ Frette

1. Kathryn Lucille Thompson (adopted) m. Mervel _____ Bessman

1. Marian Amelia Bessman

2. _____ Bessman

2. Chester A _____ Thompson (adopted) m. _____

1. _____ Thompson

3. Theodora C _____ Minerva Thompson m. _____

1. _____

3. Olvin Richard Thompson m. Anna Sophie? Anderson

1. Arnold _____ Thompson m. _____

1. Robert Arnold Thompson

2. Everett _____ Thompson

4. Cora Josephine Thompson m. Henry Albert Okdale

1. Margaret Sedell Okdale m. Cecil _____ Tellekson

1. Keith _____ Tellekson

2. Wayne _____ Tellekson

3. Mary _____ Tellekson

2. Olive Theodora Okdale m. Harold Berg Kildahl

1. Harold Berg Kildahl Jr.

3. Esther Judith Okdale

5. Melvin Theodore Thompson*

6. Ruby Myrtle Thompson m. George Olaus Fossel

1. Spencer Martel Fossel m. Jane _____ Nelson

1. Eric Thor Fossel

2. Leslie Truman Fossel m. Virginia _____ VanBrunt

1. Jon Steven Fossel

7. Amos Henry Thompson* m. Cathrine Isedora Lonne (Rem. a Hanson)

1. Thelma Jeannette Thompson m. _____ Graham

1. _____ Graham

2. _____ Graham

2. Gordon Eugene Thompson

3. Virgil Allen Thompson

8. Ernest Julius Thompson m. Alma _____ Danielson

1. Averil Thompson* (daughter)

2. Ernest Julius Thompson Jr.

Ernest Julius Thompson rem. Marine _____ Ropers

9. Justus Burnhart Thompson

10. Lillian _____ Thompson (foster child) m. _____ Hanson

1. Maren Guttormsdatter Musland (Erland) -- Tormud Sjurson Hundsnes

3. Maren Tormudsdat'r Hundsnes & Ole Tollefson Kallecod Family continued:

5. Tollef Oleson Kallecod (Tollef O. Thompson)* (July 18, 1850-Jan. 21, 1943)
Martha Sarah Knudson* (June 18, 1856-Jan. 23, 1940)
m. (Mch. 28, 1879) at Leland, Illinois
 1. Anton Martin Thompson m. Anna Magdalena Schaudt
 1. Roger Schaudt Thompson
 2. Lois Anna Thompson
 2. Otto Harvey Thompson m. Alta Merle Olinger*
 1. Francis Leroy Thompson m. Astrid Margarita Anderson
 1. Judith Astrid Thompson
 2. Edna Mae Thompson m. Arthur Karl Skogman
 1. Marcella Mae Skogman
 2. Lorraine Joyce Skogman
 3. Ethel Lillian Thompson m. Galen E. Clikeman
 1. Eva Marlaine Clikeman
 2. James Galen Clikeman
 4. Marion Jay Thompson m. Virginia Alice Hiphley
 1. Elaine Barbara Thompson
 2. Janet Mae Thompson
 3. Carole Ann Thompson
 4. Dona Jean Thompson
 5. Sandra Kay Thompson
 5. Margaret Esther Thompson m. John E. Watt
 1. Phyllis Jean Watt
 2. Martha Adella Watt
 3. Mary Astella Watt
 4. Florence Alta Watt
 5. Delores Mae Watt
 6. Dwaine Otto Watt
 6. Lester Clark Thompson m. Elizabeth Young
 1. Larry Clark Thompson
 2. Melvin Leroy Thompson
 3. Dennis Wayne Thompson
 7. Effie Lois Thompson m. Orville Oxley
 1. Norma Ann Oxley
 2. Donita Lou Oxley
 8. Donald Galen Thompson m. Mary Jane Kiest
 3. Chester Haley Thompson m. Minnie Adella Bourne*
 1. Dorothy Esther Thompson m. Elmer Cook (Div.)
 1. William Elmer Cook
 2. Robert Edward Cook
 3. Barbara Edith Cook
 - Dorothy Esther Thompson rem. Warren Amos Wallace
 4. Daniel Sylvester Thompson m. Anna Olive King*
 1. Forest Sylvester Thompson (Dan Holt) m. Mona Berg (Mona Paulee)
 2. Everett Lester Thompson
 3. Lowell Jasper Thompson m. Artella Sorenson
 1. Heather Marie Thompson
 2. Thompson
 4. Maxine Mercedes Thompson m. Willard Robert (Buck) Seale
 1. Michael Daniel Seale
 2. Patrick Miller Seale
 - Daniel Sylvester Thompson rem. Marjorie M. Mason
 5. Eunice Mae Thompson
 6. Jasper Ward Thompson m. Wilma Mae Freeland
 1. Stanley Thompson m. Dorothy Tostlebe
 1. Eric Thompson
 2. Jerry Thompson
 3. Martha Ellen Thompson
 4. Mary Jean Thompson
 7. Ruby Vern Thompson
 8. Myron Jay Thompson*
 9. Lillian Pearl (Dollie) Thompson

1. Maren Guttormsdatter Musland (Erland) -- Tormud Sjurson Hundsnes

3. Maren Tormudsdatt'r Hundsnes & Ole Tollefson Kallecod Family continued:

6. Syvert Olaus Oleson Kallecod (Syvert O. Thompson)* (Sept. 9, 1853-Mch. 13, 1924)
Isabelle _____ Hanson* (May 7, 1862-July 8, 1910)
m. (Feb. 22, 1882) at Ottawa, Illinois

1. Otto Carus Thompson*

2. Sadie Rose Thompson* m. Marshall Tuntland

1. Ona Isabelle Tuntland m. Weston Everett Fruland

1. Sharon Marie Fruland (adopted)

2. Lois Shirley Tuntland*

3. Martell Freeman Tuntland (adopted) m. Phyllis Ann Nickerson

1. David Martell Tuntland

3. Bertha Marie Nelson (foster child)

7. Berta Serena Olesdatt'r Kallecod (Bertha Thompson)* (Mar. 16, 1857-Dec. 14, 1928)
Knud Solvason Ugland* (Sept. 1, 1845-Nov. 11, 1925) (Uncle of Solva)
m. (Oct. 23, 1878) at Norway, Illinois

1. Melvin Sylvanis Ugland m. Isabelle _____ Ness*

1. Murriel Ogden Clarine Ugland m. Rubel L _____ Alexander

1. John William Alexander

2. Wilfred Ness Ugland m. Grace Carol Lantz

3. Robert Melvin Ugland

2. Helena Odena Ugland m. Frederick _____ Dolder*

1. Arthur Freidell Dolder m. Evelyn _____

2. Edward Donald Dolder m. Helen _____ Halverson

1. Helen Kay Dolder

2. Fred Daniel Dolder

3. Russel Eugene Dolder m. Betty _____ Miller

4. Genevieve _____ Dolder m. James _____ Richardson

3. Cora Theodora Ugland m. William _____ Furr

1. Infant son*

4. George Gordon Ugland m. Helen _____ Coppock (Div.)

1. Janice Janet Ugland (adopted)

5. Bert Clarence Ugland m. Lillian _____ Fritz

1. Louise Benedict Ugland m. Lewis _____ Judd

1. Rebecca Louise Judd

6. Harry Royal Ugland m. Alice _____ Sebby

1. Mary Jane Ugland m. John _____ Taxis

2. Virginia Ruth Ugland m. Lyle _____ Walker

7. Mabel Ugland*

8. Ruby Myrtle Ugland m. Vernon _____ Morsch

1. Maxine Elliot Morsch m. Staley _____ Rorem

1. Duane Stanley Rorem

2. Karen Rae Rorem

2. Pauline Ruth Morsch

3. Diane May Morsch m. Leroy _____ Muffer

4. James Vernon Morsch

9. Ruth Melvina Ugland m. Floyd Leo Jacobson

1. Fern Marie Jacobson

2. Roger Floyd Jacobson

10. Raymond Marvel Ugland m. Frances _____ Tyrell

8. Metta Helena Olesdatter Kallecod* (Meta Thompson)
(Nov. 3, 1859-Jan. 8, 1871)

1. Maren Guttormsdatter Musland (Erland) -- Tormud Sjurson Hundsnes

4. Guttorm Tormudson Hundsnes* (.....-.....)

Malinda Eriksdatter Sandvik* (.....-.....)

m. (.....) at, Norway

1. Maren Serena Guttormsdatter Hundsnes* (....., 1859-....., 1930?)

Nels Aanenson Slogvik (Oddnes) (.....-.....)

m. (.....) at, Norway

1. Guttorm Nelson Oddnes m. _____ sdatter _____

2. Severin Nelson Oddnes* unm.

2. Johanna Guttormsdatter Hundsnes* (....., 1861-....., 1932?)

Kolben Kolbenson _____ (Hervik) (....., 1862?-.....)

m. (....., 1880?) at, Norway

1. _____ Kolbensdatter Hervik*

2. Kolben Kolbenson Hervik III m. _____ sdatter _____

1. _____ Kolbens _____ Hervik

2. _____ Kolbens _____ Hervik

3?

3. Gudmund Kolbenson Hervik* unmar.?

4. Malinda Kolbensdatter Hervik m. Bardenius Gudmundson Hesthammer

1. Bjoren Hervik (adopted son of Randi Bjorensdatter Topnes)

5. Hana Kolbensdatter Hervik m. _____ son _____

6. Kasper Kolbenson Hervik m?

7. Magda Kolbensdatter Hervik m. Kristofer Kristoferson Narrevik

8? Annie? Kolbensdatter Hervik m?

3. Tormud Guttormson Hundsnes (....., 1863-.....)

Margreta Gudmundsdatter Bakkevik* (.....-....., 1932)

m. (.....) at Bakkevik?, Nerstrand Parish, Norway

1. Guttorm Tormudson Hundsnes m. _____ sdtr Hesthammer (Skj.)

1. _____ Guttormsdatter Hundsnes

2. _____ Guttormsdatter Hundsnes

2. Gudmund Tormudson Hundsnes m. Caroline Eriksdatter Naes
(Lena Erickson)

1. Margaret Lillian Hundsnes

2. Theodore Leonard Hundsnes

3. Caroline Myrtle Hundsnes

4. Violet Maxine Hundsnes

5. Gurine Thelma Hundsnes

6. Lucille Fern Hundsnes

7. Joseph Arle Hundsnes

8. Thomas Lawrence Hundsnes

9. Esther Marie Hundsnes

3. Sjur Tormudson Hundsnes (Hervik?) m. _____ sdatter _____

4. Severin Tormudson Hundsnes m. _____ sdatter _____

1. _____ Severins _____ Hundsnes

2. _____ Severins _____ Hundsnes

3. _____ Severins _____ Hundsnes

4. _____ Severins _____ Hundsnes

5. _____ Severins _____ Hundsnes

5. Guri Tormudsdatter Hundsnes m. _____ son Kvennesland

1. _____ sdatter Kvennesland

2. _____ sdatter Kvennesland

3. _____ son Kvennesland

6. Jasper Tormudson Hundsnes* unmar.

1. Maren Guttormsdatter Musland (Erland) -- Tormud Sjurson Hundsnes

4. Guttorm Tormudson Hundsnes & Malinda Eriksdatter Sandvik Family,
continued:

4. Erik Guttormson Hundsnes* (....., 1865-.....)

Maren Serena Larsdatter Steinsvik* (.....-.....)

m. (.....) at Steinsvik?, Tysvaer Sogn, Norway
(first cousins once removed)

1. Guttorm Erikson Hundsnes m. _____ sdatter _____

1. _____ Guttormson Hundsnes

2. _____ Guttormson Hundsnes

3. _____ Guttormson Hundsnes

4. _____ Guttormson Hundsnes

Erik Guttormson Hundsnes rem. (his first wife's sister)

Metta Helena Larsdatter Steinsvik?, Tysvaer Sogn, Norway

2. Magnus Erikson Hundsnes m?

3. Lars Erikson Hundsnes m?

4. Melvin Erikson Hundsnes m?

5. Olaf Erikson Hundsnes m. _____ sdatter _____

6. Margaret Eriksdatter Hundsnes m?

5. Sevrine Guttormson Hundsnes (Severin G. Thompson)

(Apr. 14, 1867-

Elsie Johnson (Oct. 13, 1874-

m. (Feb. 8, 1896) at Badger, Iowa

1. Gustav Thompson*

2. Melvin Thompson

3. Gilford Melvin Thompson m. Alta Irene Bowyer

1. Marie Elaine Thompson

2. Gordon Melvin Thompson

3. Hazel Joanne Thompson

5. Burnla Tormudsdatter Hundsnes * (.....-.....)

Stender Oleson Kallecod (Stender Olson)* (.....-.....)

m. (.....) at, Norway

1. Severin Stenderon Olsen* (.....-.....)

2. Antonetta Marie Stendersdatter Olsen* (.....-.....)

_____ son* (.....-.....)

m. (.....) at, Norway

3. Stena Burdina Gurina Emalina Stendersdatter Olsen

(.....-.....)

4. Theodore Stenderon Olsen (.....-.....)

1. Maren Guttormsdatter Musland (Erland)* rem. Ole Kallecod's brother,
Tollef Tollefson Kallecod* (.....-....., Norway
m. (.....) at, Norway

6. Karena Tollefsdatter Hundsnes* (.....-.....)
Bjoren Bjorenson Topnes II* (.....-.....)
m. (.....) at Topnes, Nerstrand Parish, Norway
1. Knute Bjorenson Topnes (.....-.....) m?
2. Maren Bjorensdatter Topnes (.....-.....)
Ole _____ son Amdal (Topnes) (.....-.....)
m. (.....) at, Norway
1. Infant*
3. Randi Bjorensdatter Topnes (.....-.....)
Andreas _____ son Voll (.....-.....)
m. (.....) at, Norway
1. Karl Racine Tomsen Hervik m. Lovisa _____ sdatter Rogenes
2. Infant*
3. _____ son (Bjoren Hervik?)
4. _____ son (Twin of No.3)
4. Seri Bjorensdatter Topnes (.....-.....)
_____ son Hapnes (.....-.....)
m. (.....) at, Norway
1. Sjur _____ son Topnes m. _____ sdatter _____

7. Serena Tollefsdatter Hundsnes* (.....-.....)
Albert Albertson Oskeland* (....., 1847?-....., 1886?)
m. (....., 1872?) at Tysvaer Church?, Norway
1. Albert Albertson Oskeland III (.....-.....)
_____ sdatter _____ (.....-.....)
m. (.....) in Tysvaer Sogn?, Norway
2. _____ Albertsdatter Oskeland (.....-.....)
3. _____ Albertsdatter Oskeland (.....-.....)
4. _____ Albertsdatter Oskeland (.....-.....)

2.Seri Guttormsdatter Musland (Erland)* (.....-.....)
Vilum Vilumson Erland II* (.....,1773?-May 12,1848)
m. (.....) in Skjold Sogn?, Norway

1?Infant Daughter* (.....-.....)

2?_____ Vilumsdatter Erland* (.....-.....)

3?Vilum Vilumson Erland III* (Baptized Sept.21,1806-May 26,1905)

Cecelia _____sdatter Aursland* (.....-.....,1897?)

m. (.....) in Skjold Sogn?, Norway

1.Serena Vilumsdatter Erland (.....-)

Morton _____son Mortveit-(.....-)

m. (.....) in Skjold Sogn?, Norway

1.William Mortonson _____

2.Hanna Mortonsdatter _____

3._____ Mortonsdatter _____* unkm.

2.Vilum Vilumson Erland IV (.....-)

Malene Baarsdatter Homelsto (Egge)* (.....-.....,1915?)

(Malene was a cousin of Gunder Olson Sovik)

m. (.....) in Skjold Sogn?, Norway

Vilum Vilumson Erland IV remarried

Karoline _____sdatter _____

m. (.....) in Skjold Sogn?, Norway

3.Lars Vilumson Erland (Vaggeli) (Bakken)(.....,1848?-)

Karena Roaldsdatter Grinde* (.....,1860?-.....,1900)

m. (.....) in Skjold Sogn?, Norway

1.Salda (Salle?) Larsdatter Vaggeli m.Syvert Jakobson Everbo

1.Ellen Syvertsdatter _____ m. _____ son _____

1. _____ son

2. _____ son

2.Jakob Syvertson Everbo

3.Sylvia Syvertsdatter _____ m. _____ son _____

2.Roald Larson Vaggeli m. Mathilde Tonnisdatter Norby*

1.Rolf Roaldson Vaggeli

2.Tonnis Roaldson Vaggeli

3. _____ Roaldson Vaggeli

4.Roald? Roaldson Vaggeli

3.William Larson Vaggeli (William Vagle)*

m. Olga Josefine Amundsdatter Storesund (Olga Nelson)

1.Carl Leonard Vagle m. Gladys Evelyn Peterson*

1.Carolyn Joyce Vagle

2.Gerald Carl Vagle

Carl Leonard Vagle rem. Jennie _____ Harms

2.Alma Otelia Vagle m. Duane Dutton Osborne

1.Robert Duane Osborne

3.William Orlo Vagle m. Alice _____ Norman

1. _____ Vagle

4.Agnes Margaret Vagle m. Harvey A _____ Findley

1.Avis Marlane Findley

2.Theodore Raymond Findley

5.Edna Elizabeth Vagle m. Robert Charles Plath

1.Joanne Margaret Plath

6.Harold Leroy Vagle

7.Christine Vagle m. Donald Larue Brewington

1. _____ Brewington

8.Roald Vagle

4.Gudmund Larson Vaggeli (George Vagle) m. Angie Thompson

1.Lynn Edward Vagle m. Frances Jeannette Gilmore

1.David Lynn Vagle

2.Gale Jeanine Vagle

3.Dale Eugene Vagle (twin of Gale)

2.Evelyn Bernice Vagle

3.Corneil Francis Vagle m. Helen Ileen Sween

1.Steven Edward Vagle

4.Thorine Vagle

5.Cornelius Leonard Larson Vaggeli (Cornelius L.Larson) m?

6.Ellen Larsdatter Vaggeli*

2.Seri Guttormsdatter Musland (Erland) -- Vilum Vilumson Erland II

3.Vilum Vilumson Erland III & Cecilia Aursland Family, continued

3.Lars Vilumson Erland (Vaggeli)-(Bakken) Family, continued

Lars Vilumson Erland (Vaggeli) remarried

Martha _____sdatter Amdal* (.....,1875?-.....)

m. (.....) in Skjold Sogn?, Norway

1.Rolf Larson Vaggeli

2. _____ Lars _____ Vaggeli

3. _____ Lars _____ Vaggeli

4. _____ Lars _____ Vaggeli

5. _____ Lars _____ Vaggeli

6. _____ Lars _____ Vaggeli

7. _____ Lars _____ Vaggeli

8? _____ Lars _____ Vaggeli

4.Halvor Vilumson Erland (Aakland)* (.....,1851?-.....)

Cecila Sjursdatter Aakland (.....-)

m. (.....) in Skjold Sogn?, Norway

1?Vilum Halvorson Aakland

2?Syvert Halvorson Aakland (Örö) m.Martha _____sdr Stangeland
(Ölen)

3?Halvor Halvorson Aakland

4?Guttorm (Gilbert?) Halvorson Aakland (Stembru)

m. Martha Andrewsdaughter Stakland

5?Cecila Halvorsdatter Aakland m. _____son Yektevik

6?Gudmund Halvorson Aakland

5.Severt Vilumson Erland (Kreppene-Krapo) (Öre) (Erland)

(.....-..)

Enga _____sdatter _____ (.....-)

m. (.....) in Skjold Sogn?, Norway

1. _____ Severts _____ Kreppene

2. _____ Severts _____ Kreppene

3. _____ Severts _____ Kreppene

4. _____ Severts _____ Kreppene

5. _____ Severts _____ Kreppene?

6. _____ Severts _____ Kreppene?

7? _____ Severts _____ Kreppene?

6.Ellen Marie Vilumsdatter Erland* (.....-.....,1898?)

Hvor? _____son _____ (Sveien) (.....-)

m. (.....) in Skjold Sogn?, Norway

1.Hannah Hvor?sdatter _____

2.Halvor Hvor?son _____

3. _____ Hvor?son _____

4. _____ Hvor?son _____

2.Seri Guttormsdatter Musland (Erland) -- Vilum Vilumson Erland II

- 4.Maren Vilumsdatter Erland* (.....,1807 or June...,1808-.....,1906)
Ingebret Johanneson Erland* (Oct.9,1793-.....,1890)
(Maren and Ingebret were 1st cousins on paternal side)
m. (.....,1824/26) at Erland, Skjold Sogn, Norway
1.Johannes Ingebretson Erland* (.....-.....)
_____sdatter _____ (.....-.....)
m. (.....) in Skjold Sogn?, Norway
1. _____ Johanneson Erland
- 2.Vilum Ingebretson Erland(Mehus) (Vilum Dalestrantu)* (.....-.....)
- 3.Serina Ingebretsdatter Erland* (.....-.....)
_____son Vestre? (.....-.....)
m. (.....) in Skjold Sogn?, Norway
- 4.Gudmund Ingebretson Erland* (.....-.....)
- 5.Ivar Ingebretson Erland* (.....-.....)
- 6.Maren Ingebretsdatter Erland* (Oct.,...,1843-May 25,1883)
Vilum Vilumson Halleland* (Wilhelm Wilhelmson)(William Williamson)
(Oct.3,1843-May 12,1938)
(Maren and Vilum were first cousins on paternal side)
m. (.....,1870) at Skjold Church, Norway
1.Karl Johan Vilumson (John Williamson)
2.Albert Williamson m. Bertha Ames Smith
1.Dorothy Lucile Williamson m. Melvin Gay Barnes
1.Marcia Kathleen Barnes
2.Kristin Noel Barnes
2.Marguerite Williamson m. George Sterling Walters III (Div.)
3.Helen Louise Williamson m. Sterling Maynard Norbeck
1.Karl Sterling Norbeck
2.Jane Sterling Norbeck
3.William Williamson m. Clara Victoria Dice
1.Mary Laverne Williamson (foster child) m.William Weis Lusk
2.Cleola Catherine Williamson(foster child)
m. Lowell Robert Reynolds
1.Robert Charles Reynolds
3.Gertrude Lucille Williamson (foster child)
m. William George Hunt
1.Diane Lucille Hunt
2.William Byron Hunt 3.Linda Hunt
4.Martin Williamson m. Nettie _____ Winkle
1.Mildred _____ Williamson m. Wayne _____
1. _____
2. _____
2.Viola _____ Williamson m. _____
3.William _____ Williamson m. _____
1. _____ Williamson
2. _____ Williamson
4.Daryl _____ Williamson m. _____
5. _____ Williamson
5.Mary Williamson
6.Josephine Williamson*
- 7?Ingebret Ingebretson Erland (.....,1843?-.....)
_____sdatter _____* (.....-.....)
m. (.....) in Skjold Sogn?, Norway
- 8?Ole Ingebretson Erland* (.....,1847/48-.....,1930) unm.
- 9?Jakob Ingebretson Erland* (.....-.....) unm.

2. Seri Guttormsdatter Musland (Erland) -- Vilum Vilumson Erland II

5. Lars Vilumson Erland (Egge)* (.....-.....)
 Karen (Kari) _____sdatter Vaare (Egge)* (.....-.....)
 (Karen was the widow of Baar Oleson Egge)
 m. (.....) in Skjold Sogn?, Norway

1. Maren Larsdatter Egge (.....-.....)
 Erik _____son Tveit (Egge) (.....-.....)
 m. (.....) in Skjold Sogn?, Norway

1. Lars Erikson Egge m. _____
 1. _____
 2. _____
 3. _____
 4. _____
 5. _____
 6. _____
 7? _____
 8? _____

2. Kristoffer Erikson Egge m. Torborg Jakobsdatter Oström

3. Bernt Erikson Egge

4. Kaia Eriksdatter Egge m. Hans _____son Egge

5. Kristine Eriksdatter Egge* unkm.

6. Erik Erikson Egge (Skjoldevik) m. Emilie _____sdatter _____
 (from Masterhavn?)

7. Martin Erikson Egge*

8. Andreas Erikson Egge (Rökenes) m. _____sdatter _____

9. Maren Eriksdatter Egge m. _____son Viland

2. Lina Larsdatter Egge* (.....-.....)
 Torstein _____son Nygaard* (.....-.....)
 m. (.....) at _____, Norway

1. Lars Torsteinson Nygaard m. _____sdatter Quala

2. Kristian Torsteinson Nygaard

3. Kaia Torsteinsdatter Nygaard m. Jon _____son Klovning

4. Hanna Torsteinsdatter Nygaard m. _____son _____

5. Thea Torsteinsdatter Nygaard m. _____Knutson

3. Karen Larsdatter Egge (.....-.....)

Karl Johan _____son Høie (.....-.....)
 m. (....., 1884?) at _____, Norway

1. Karoline Karlsdatter Høie m. Eivind Amlie

2. Ingeborg Karlsdatter Høie m. Sigmond Bromeland

3. Gunhild Karlsdatter Høie m. Johannes Förde

4. Richard Karlson Høie m. _____Nilsen

5. Johan Karlson Høie m. _____Nilsen

6. Lars Karlson Høie m. _____Sorhaug

4. Laurensa Larsdatter Egge (....., 1850-.....)

Even _____son Risanger (....., 1848-.....)
 m., 1888?) in Skjold Sogn?, Norway

1. Sigvald Evenson Risanger m. Justine Karlsdatter Hatteland

1. Even Risanger (adopted)

2. Karen Evensdatter Risanger

5. Ingeborg Larsdatter Egge (.....-.....)

6. Andreas Larson Egge (.....-.....)

2.Seri Guttormsdatter Musland (Erland) -- Vilum Vilumson Erland II

6.Guttorm Vilumson Frovik*(.....-.....)

Olea _____ sdatte _____ * (.....-.....)
m. (.....) in Skjold Sogn?, Norway

1.Karen Serina Guttormsdatter Frovik* (Jul.28,1857-Nov.22,1930)

Lars Larson Vaagen* (Oct.15,1847-May 30?,1913)

m. (.....,1874?) in Skjold Sogn, Norway (at church)

1.Lars Martinus Larson Vaagen*

2.Lars Martinus Larson Vaagen*

3.Guttorm Olai Larson Vaagen (Lilland?) m. _____ sdr _____

1.Hendrik Leonard Guttormson Lilland?*

2.Lars Cornelius Guttormson Lilland?

4.Gurina Larsdatter Vaagen (Gurina Larson) m. Ole Olson

1.Gladys Incia Tillie Olson m. Jack Frederick Nichols

1.Kay Marie Nichols

2.Jack _____ Nichols

2.Infant son*

3.Lawrence Olson m. Doris _____ LeClare

1.Robert _____ Olson

2.Barbara Jean Olson

4.Martha Karena Olson m. Claude _____ Terrell

1.Clarence Eugene Terrell

2.Beverly _____ Terrell

5.Lenora Olson m. Kenneth William _____

1.LeRoy Frederick _____

2.Jack LeRoy _____

3.Johnny Lee _____

6.Oliver Wilbur Olson m. _____ Reinson (div.)

7.Julian Marion Olson m. Esther _____ Richardson

1.Joyce Elaine Olson

8.Hubert Phillip Olson

5.Baar Larson Vaagen (Ben Larson) m. Christine Bertine Roseland
(sister of Harold)

1.Joseph Lloyd Larson

2.Malinda Karine Larson*

3.Caroline Bertine Larson

6.Bernt Larson Vaagen (Bernt Larson) m. Erikka Eriksdr Grønstad (of Etne)

1.Cathrine Georgia Larson

2.Ernest Lloyd Larson m. Adeline _____ Dahl

1.Karen Elizabeth Larson

3.Richard Bernard Larson

7.Karl Larson Vaagen m. Marie Gudmundsdr Skogen (of Vikebygd)

1.Karen Lovisa Karlsdatter Vaagen

2.Johannes Karlson Vaagen

3. _____ Karls _____ Vaagen

4. _____ Karls _____ Vaagen

5. _____ Karls _____ Vaagen

8.Syvert Larson Vaagen (Sveio)* m. _____ sdatte _____

1. _____ Syverts _____ Sveio

2. _____ Syverts _____ Sveio

3. _____ Syverts _____ Sveio

9.Martin Johan Larson Vaagen (Martin Larson)* m. _____

10.Laura Marie Larsdatter Vaagen m. Carl Weltzin Aspelund

1.Mary Ann Aspelund

11.Marta Helene Larsdr Vaagen m. Andreas Jakobson Eide (Kverneland?)

1.Margit Andreasdatter Kverneland?

2.Jakob Andreason Kverneland?

12.Olea B _____ Larsdatter Vaagen*

13.Lars Martinus Larson Vaagen (Dueland)(Lars Larson?) m. Thea
_____ sdatte Vieland

1.Karen Larson?

2. _____ Larson?

3. _____ Larson?

4. _____ Larson?

5. _____ Larson?

2.Seri Guttormsdatter Musland (Erland) -- Vilum Vilumson Erland II

6.Guttorm Vilumson Erland (Frovik) & Olea _____ Family, continued:

2.Maren Johanna Guttormsdatter Frovik* (Jul.9,1860-Apr.16,1925)
David Larson Eggesdal (Dave Olson)*(June 15,1860-Dec.17,1915)
m. (Jan.4,1884) at Ottawa, Illinois

1.Lester Osmund Olson m. Severina Helena Roseland

1.Raymond Marion Olson m. Helen Adeline Hillisland/Hilleson

1.Ansgar David Olson*

2.Sigve _____ Olson

3.Rolf _____ Olson

2.Norris Delmar Olson m. Dorothy _____ Norland

1.Carmen Joyce Olson

3.Helen LuVerne Olson m. James Marshall Budd

1.Jon Mark Budd

4.Ruth Madeline Olson m. John K _____ Kist

1.Gary Lee Kist

2.George Oscar Olson* m. Lillie Pohlmann*

1.Cecil Donald Olson m. _____

2.Arvilla Mary Olson m. Carl _____ Wooster

George Oscar Olson* rem. Tillie Pohlmann (sister of Lillie)

3.Erma Lorraine Olson m. Robert Truman Krueger

1.Richard Kaye Krueger

3.Mabel Serena Olson* m. Edward Pohlmann (brother of Tillie and
Lillie)

1.Vera Hazel Pohlmann

2.Vivian Marie Pohlmann m. Melvin Jackson

1.Margery Ann Jackson

2.Melvin Douglas Jackson

3.Terrell John Jackson

4.Sandra Lynn Jackson

3.Maxine Lavonne Pohlmann

4.Delores Joy Pohlmann

5.Infant daughter*

6.Mary Joanne Pohlmann

7.David Edward Pohlmann

4.Gladys Olinda Olson m. Noble Eugene Cozine

5.Anna Dorothea Olson m. Harold Sigurd Roseland (brother of
Christine)

6.Della Myrtle Olson m. Henry W _____ Siebert

7.Arthur Silas Olson m. Emma Irene Engh

1.Mary Ann Olson

2. Seri Guttormsdatter Musland (Erland) -- Vilum Vilumson Erland II

6. Guttorm Vilumson Erland (Frovik) & Olea _____ Family, continued:

3. Vilum Guttormson Frovik (Tveit) (Hokel) (.....-.....)

Olena Olesdatter Tveit* (.....-....., 1922?)

m. (.....) at Skjold Church, Norway

1. Ola Vilumson Tveit (Hokel) m. Indrine _____sdatter Amdal

1. _____Olas _____Hokel

2. _____Olas _____Hokel

3. _____Olas _____Hokel

4?

2. Gina Olea Vilumsdatter Tveit*

Vilum Guttormson Frovik (Tveit) (Hokel) remarried

Martha Pedersdatter Liarabben (.....-)

4. Sina Olina Guttormsdatter Frovik (Sept 15, 1866-)

John Larson Sagen (Tveit) (Oct. 18, 1859-)

m. (....., 1893) at Skjold Church, Norway

1. Jennie Louise Jonsdatter Tveit m. Olaf Oleson Eggesdal
(nephew of David E.)

1. Selma Kristine Olafsdatter Eggesdal

2. Oscar Johan Olafson Eggesdal

3. Orine Margaret Olafsdatter Eggesdal

4. Oliver Junior Olafson Eggesdal

5. Delores Marie Olafsdatter Eggesdal

2. Guttorm Oliver Jonson Tveit m. Serina Johansdatter Thuestad

1. Solvig Johanna Guttormsdatter Tveit

2. Jon Seval Guttormson Tveit

3. Gunnar Guttormson Tveit

4. Signe Guttormsdatter Tveit

5. Olaf Guttormson Tveit

6. Kaare Guttormsdatter Tveit

3. Gina Olea (Leah) Jonsdatter Tveit m. Lars Larson Rygh

1. Leonard Junior Rygh m. Barchetta Nevin Calland

2. Malvin Sanford Rygh

3. Gerald Laverne Rygh

4. Johannes Jonson Tveit m. Hilda _____sdatter Aksdal

5. Lars Jonson Tveit m. Ingebjor Syvertdatter Skaare

1. Sivert Larson Tveit

2. Infant daughter*

3. Johannes Larson Tveit

4. _____Lars _____Tveit

6. Inga Marie Jonsdatter Tveit m. Torleif Stangeland

(Thomas Stanley)

7. Jon Seval Jonson Tveit

8. Selma Jorgine Jonsdatter Tveit m. Lewis Bartholdus Thompson

1. Lewis Junior Thompson

2. Helen Sonja Thompson

9. Olaf Johan Jonson Tveit*

5. Gina Olea Guttormsdatter Frovik* (.....-.....)

2. Seri Guttormsdatter Musland (Erland) -- Vilum Vilumson Erland II

7. Anna Serina Vilumsdatter Erland* (May 22, 1820-May 1, 1887)

Gunder Oleson Egge (Munkhus) (Valland) (Sovik) (Gunder Olson)*
(Mch. 1, 1820-Oct. 1, 1900)

m. (Oct. 17, 1843) at Erland, Skjold Sogn, Norway

1. Ole Gunderson Munkhus (Valland) (Sovik) (Ole G. Sevig)*
(Mch. 25, 1844-Apr. 27, 1940)

Bertha Hendriksdatter Egge (Hendrickson)*
(Nov. 24, 1850-Jan. 19, 1944)

m. (Jan. 10, 1874) at Leland, Illinois

1. Annie Serena Sevig m. Andrew _____ Axdahl

1. Bessie Edith Axdahl m. Charles _____ Mickelson

1. Myrtle Ann Mickelson

2. Kenneth James Mickelson

3. Beatrice Carmin Mickelson

2. Otis Malvin Axdahl m. Clara _____ Larson

1. Charlotte Marie Axdahl

3. Eva Irene Axdahl m. Amos _____ Johnson

1. Alvin Myron Johnson

2. Genora May Johnson

3. Arnold Irvin Johnson

4. Martha Elizabeth Axdahl m. Ole _____ Larson

1. Lois Arlene Larson

2. Emelia _____ Sevig* m. Bart Holger Strand* (rem.)

1. Hannah Serena Strand*

2. Hannah Mae Strand m. Fred _____ Wendler Jr.

3. Bertha _____ Strand m. Kenneth Kimball Bancroft

1. Phyllis Jean Bancroft

4. Olive _____ Strand m. Forest A _____ Emery

1. Betty Jane Emery

2. Kathleen Sue Emery

5. Annie Blanch Strand m. Arnold I _____ Christensen

1. Mary Ann Christensen

2. Donna Jean Christensen

3. Jo Ann Christensen

6. Howard Elmer Strand m. Jean Josephine Johnson

1. Randall Edward Strand

2. Richard Barton Strand

3. Gertrude Sevig

4. Henry Mathew Sevig

5. Ralph Douglas Sevig

6. William Sevig

7. Samuel Sevig

8. Oscar Clarence Sevig m. Mary Josephine Yonacek Kleppe

1. Gordon Clarence Sevig

2. Dale Clyde Sevig

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2. Seri Guttormsdatter Musland (Erland) -- Vilum Vilumson Erland II

7. Anna Serina Vilumsdtr Erland & Gunder Oleson Sovik Family continued:

2. Vilum Gunderson Munkhus (Valland) (Sovik) (William Olson)*
(June 8, 1845-.....)

Boletta Anstensdatter Erikson* (Sept. 4, 1850-Mch. 7, 1913)
m. (Mch. 9, 1874) at Earlville, Illinois

1. Josephine Serena Olson m. Albert A _____ Sheldon*
 1. Otto Wilfred Sheldon m. Cora _____ Skaare
 1. Oliver Carleton Sheldon
 2. Albert Harold Sheldon
 3. Jerome William Sheldon
 2. Bernice Clarissa Sheldon m. Benjamin _____ Brietenkamp
 1. Jeanine Gretchen Brietenkamp
 3. James Arlowe Sheldon m. Mildred _____ McNay
2. George Arthur Olson m. Tillie _____ Hanson
 1. Lucille Henrietta Olson
 2. Winifred George Olson
3. Amanda Cecelia Olson m. Peter S _____ Knutson*
 1. Harold Merton Knutson*
 2. Byron Wilmer Knutson m. Nora Dee Reeves
 3. Anita Pauline Knutson*
 4. Geneva Susan Knutson m. Forrest _____ Palmer
4. Herbert _____ Olson*
5. Villa Belle Olson m. Abel J _____ Haugland
 1. Herbert _____ Haugland m. Alice _____ Vernon
 1. Illa May Haugland
 2. Gerald William Haugland
 3. Betty Lou Haugland
 4. Bonnie Lois Haugland
 2. Ambert _____ Haugland m. Margaret _____ Ford
 1. Dwain Willis Haugland
 3. Bertren Willis Haugland
 4. Bernita Amanda Haugland m. Lloyd _____ Hondeland
6. Herman Elmer Olson m. Gonelia _____ Peterson
 1. Willetta Beatrice Olson m. Harry _____ O'Brien
 1. Charles Harrison O'Brien
 2. Sherril Jean O'Brien
 2. Jodella Jorgina Olson m. Melvin _____ Nelson
 1. Jurine Merrill Nelson
 3. Elnor Gertrude Olson m. Clifford _____ Nelson
 1. David Harold Nelson
 4. Harriet Helene Olson
 5. Laurine Joyce Olson
 6. Elmer Harold Olson
 7. Willard Jurdine Olson
7. Walter Benjamin Olson m. Sara _____ Sandven
 1. Burdette Willis Olson

2.Seri Guttormsdatter Musland (Erland) -- Vilum Vilumson Erland II

7. Anna Serina Vilumsdtr Erland & Gunder Oleson Sovik Family, continued:

3. Baar Gunderson Valland (Sovik) (Barney G. Olson)*

(Apr. 24, 1847-Dec. 23, 1938)

Caroline Johnson* (Dec. 31, 1858-Feb. 1, 1936)

m. (Feb. 14, 1881) at Story City, Iowa

1. Gaylord John Olson m. Rose Belle Folk

1. Marion Byron Olson

2. Mary Caroline Olson

2. Mable Amelia Olson m. Edward Thompson

1. Irene Ethel Thompson m. Ernest Louis Dolder

1. Gene Edward Dolder

2. Dwayn Ernest Dolder

3. Robert Louis Dolder

2. Sadie Caroline Thompson*

3. Otis Edward Thompson m. Fern Bernice Knieriem

4. Edna May Thompson*

5. Kenneth Byron Thompson

6. Eunice Violet Thompson

3. Clarence Bayard Olson m. Ruth Pearle Emke

4. James Arthur Olson m. Mabel Josephine Bjelland

1. Donald James Olson

2. Howard Dwayne Olson

3. Eugene Vernon Olson

5. Ida May Olson m. Benjamin Franklin Edge

1. Gwendolyn Maxine Edge m. _____

2. James Norman Edge

3. Meta Lorraine Edge

6. Martin Herman Olson*

4. Bertha Serena Gundersdatter Valland? (Sovik) (Bertha Olson)*

(Mar. 9, 1849-Dec. 19, 1926)

Knute Oleson Maaland (Knute Knutson) (Knute Molan)*

(Jul. 12, 1843-Apr. 30, 1927)

m. (Dec. 26, 1878) at Pontiac, Illinois

1. Otis John Molan

2.Seri Guttormsdatter Musland (Erland) -- Vilum Vilumson Erland II

7. Anna Serina Vilumsdtr Erland & Gunder Oleson Sovik Family, continued:

5. Hendrik Gunderson Sovik (Henry G. Olson)* (Dec. 23, 1852-Nov. 13, 1935)

6. Sarah Ellen Gundersdtr Sovik (Sarah Olson)*

(Nov. 23, 1855-Mch. 25, 1922)

Erik Knuteson Stakkestad (Ira S. Sampson)*

(Feb. 17, 1846-Nov. 21, 1937)

m. (Feb. 19, 1876) at Earlville, Illinois

1. Samuel Thomas Sampson m. Josephine Friesth

1. Eilert Irving Sampson m. Geneva Doris DeWinter

2. George Arthur Sampson m. Clara _____ Smith Davis

3. Martin Sampson*

4. Mary Ann Sampson m. Wilbur Glen Warner

1. Elva Irene Warner m. Angus S. _____ McBane* (div.)

1. Jo Ann McBane (Jo Ann Williams)

Elva Irene Warner rem. Paul Wilson Williams

1. Jo Ann Williams (adopted)

2. Elmer Glen Warner*

3. Gertrude Elida Warner m. Arthur James Murphy

1. James Warner Murphy

4. Margaret Jeannette Warner m. John Richard Hogan

1. Margaret Ann Hogan

2. Kathleen Hogan

5. Gladys Marie Warner m. Louis Robert Muhl

5. Eva Sampson m. Rasmus A. _____ Friesth (Brother of Josephine)

1. Esther Mildred Friesth m. Webster Wayne Intermill

1. Infant son*

2. Marvyl Ann Intermill

2. Elmer Sylvester Friesth*

3. Ruth Eunice Friesth*

4. Marvyl Josephine Friesth*

5. Gladys Maxine Friesth m. Stanford Wells Griffith

1. Jerrette Friesth Griffith

2. Stanford Friesth Griffith

3. Pamela Griffith

4. Susan Griffith

6. Richard Merlin Friesth*

7. Russell Milan Friesth* (twin of Richard Merlin)

6. Elmer Melvin Sampson*

7. Gunder Gunderson Sovik (George G. Olson)* (Feb. 18, 1860-Apr. 13, 1912)

Amelia Jacobson* (Feb. 11, 1868-Mch. 6, 1917)

m. (Feb. 1, 1893) at Earlville, Illinois

1. Amos George Olson m. Mable Inger Larson

1. George William Olson

2. Hazel Almira Olson

2. Gertrude Angie Olson m. Benjamin Johnson

1. Carmen LaVere Johnson

2. Infant son*

3. Russell Eugene Johnson

4. Donna Lee Johnson

5. Barbara Kay Johnson

3. Marie Della Olson m. Lawrence Lewis Bless

1. Marilyn Joan Bless*

2. Lane Larry Bless

3. Tommy Ross Bless

4. Leonard Chester Olson m. Genevieve Helen Larson

1. Bonnie Rae Olson

5. Ethel Eunice Olson

3. Eli Guttormsdatter Musland (Erland) (Ellen Erickson)*
(Oct. 29, 1784-Aug. 8, 1865)
Erik Nelson Tveit (Aursland)* (.....-....., 1849/52)
m. (.....) in Skjold Sogn?, Norway
-

1? Infant*

2? Infant*

3? Nels Erikson Aursland (Nels Erikson)* (.....-.....)

Marie _____* (.....-.....)
m. (.....) in, Norway

1. Rangval Nelson* (.....-.....)

2. Torkild Nelson (Aursland)* (.....-.....)

_____sdatter _____ (.....-.....)
m. (.....) at, Norway

1? Rangval Torkildson? m?

2? _____ Torkildson? m?

3. _____

4. _____

5? _____*?

3. Gaude Nelson ("Oritzland")* (.....-.....)

_____sdatter _____ (.....-.....)
m. (.....) at, Norway

1. _____ Gaudesdatter m?

4. Erik Nelson _____* (.....-.....) unm.

Nels Erikson Aursland* remarried

_____ (.....-.....)
m. (.....) at, Norway

4. Inga Eriksdatter Aursland (Inga Olson)* (....., 1808-June 2/3, 1888)

Ole Guner?son Stakkestad (.....-.....)

m. (.....) in Skjold Sogn?, Norway

1. Serina Olesdatter Stakkestad (Serena Olson)* (....., 1836-
Aug. 26, 1912)

Haakon Turben Anderson Valders (Henry T. Anderson)*

(June 22, 1834-Dec., 1928)

m. (Apr. 11, 1874) at Lake City, Iowa

1. Infant daughter*

2. Infant daughter*

3. Abel Oliver Anderson* m. Nettie _____ McBurnie*

2. Tollag Oleson Stakkestad (Tollag Olson)* (Jan. 15, 1840-Apr. 2, 1919)

Marie H _____sdatter Jephthine Gjertsen (Mary E. Mastin)*
(Oct. 11, 1849-Apr. 14, 1899)

m. (.....) at Haugesund, Norway

1. Maria Froling* (adopted niece of Mary's)

3. Guner Oleson Stakkestad (Guner Olson)* (Sept. 7, 1844-Nov. 19, 1905)

Bertha Sam?sdatter Sorvaag (Bertha Sampson?)*
(.....-.....)

m. (....., 1874) in Benton County, Iowa

1. Infant son*

Guner Oleson Stakkestad (Guner Olson) remarried

Ellen Hansdatter Groenstad (Ellen Hanson?)*
(Oct. 8, 1850-Oct. 18, 1933)

m. (Apr. 1, 1885) at Ft. Dodge, Iowa

2. Ida Corinne Olson m. Martin Tilden Thorson*

1. Miriam Ione Thorson m. Orville Bertram Cleveland

1. Mark Orville Cleveland

2. Samuel Ole Cleveland

2. Ellen Mary Thorson

3. Olive Matilda (Tillie) Olson m. Burton Darvin Chantland

4. Henry Benjamin Olson

5. Ellen Serena (Sarah) Olson* (twin of Henry) m. Neil _____ Hanson

6. Haakon Turben Olson*

4. Martha Olesdatter Stakkestad (Martha Olson)* (.....-..... 1882?)

5. Ingeborg Olesdatter Stakkestad* (.....-.....)

3. Eli Guttormsdatter Musland (Erland) -- Erik Nelson Tveit(Aursland)

5. Guttorm Erikson Aursland (Thomas, or "Big Tom", Erickson)*
(Jan.12,1813-Feb.11,1900)
Gunla Serine Persdatter Neset (Julia Pearson)*(Apr.10,1825-Nov.9,1914)
m.(.....,1856) at Ottawa?, Illinois
1. Ellen Erickson*(.....-.....)
2. Caroline Erickson* (Feb.18,1859-Jul.9,1936)
Jacob Rosdail* (Dec.23,1855-Jan.7,1929)
m. (Jan.25,1881) at Norway?, Illinois
1. Orvie Thurman Rosdail m. Dena Thressa Holand
1. Harris Donald Rosdail*
2. Clarence Jerome Rosdail m. Ethel _____ McGrew Peterson
1. James Thurman Rosdail (Adopt.) 2. Richard Jerome Rosdail (Adopt.)
3. Julia Thressa Rosdail m. Virgil Evans McKeever
1. Jill Ann McKeever
2. Jerry Dean McKeever
3. Jeannette Marie McKeever
4. Jacqueline Kay McKeever
2. Julia Gertrude Rosdail*
3. Jesse Clarence Rosdail* m. Mary Christena Hart (rem. A.L. Halstead)
1. Jesse Hart Rosdail m. Dorothy Mae Keithly
1. Maren Josephine Rosdail
2. Malinda Jeanine Rosdail
4. Gertrude _____ Rosdail m. Elmer Martin Holland
1. Elmo Gaylord Holland*
2. Cleo Hildayne Holland m. Richmond Karl Anderson
1. Karl Elmo Anderson
2. Dale Kristen Anderson
3. Karen Cleo Anderson 4. Royce Richmond Anderson
3. June Lynette Holland m. Jerrold Robert Travers
1. Lynette Kay Travers
5. LeRoy Rosdail m. Mabel Olena Olson
1. Vern Lenore Rosdail m. Leonard Allen Meredith
1. Janet Lenore Meredith
2. Jerrold Allan Meredith
3. Judith Carol Meredith
2. James Russell Rosdail m. Mildred Annette Cruzen
3. Blair Carol Rosdail m. Arlene Rose Galbraith
4. Milton Leroy Rosdail
5. Orin Samuel Rosdail*
6. Jean Esther Rosdail
7. Elmo Robert Rosdail*
8. Lyle Clair Rosdail
6. Erick Samuel Rosdail m. Ethel May McClintock
1. Joyce Arlene Rosdail
2. Doris Hope Rosdail m. Kenneth _____ Kolsto
3. Merle Artele (Bud) Rosdail m. Catherine _____ Early
1. Neil Artele Rosdail 2. Dona Kay Rosdail
4. Erick Junior Rosdail
7. Jacob Junior Rosdail m. Genevieve Leone Anderson (div.)
1. Wanda Glorine Rosdail m. Jesse Dean Stoner
1. Caroline Susan Stoner
2. Paul Dean Stoner
Jacob Junior Rosdail rem. Gertrude DeVries
8. Calvin _____ Rosdail m. Opal Genevieve Tow
1. Betty Jean Rosdail m. Richard Urban Stahlmann
1. Nancy Ann Stahlmann
2. Gary Richard Stahlmann
2. Mary Caroline Rosdail
3. Janet Sue Rosdail
4. Dennis Calvin? Rosdail
5. Donald _____ Rosdail
9. Glenn Theodore Rosdail m. Elsie DeVries (sister of Gertrude)
1. Thomas Allan Rosdail
2. Daniel Lee Rosdail

3. Eli Guttormsdatter Musland (Erland) - Erik Nelson Tveit (Aursland)

6. Maren Eriksdatter Aursland* (....., 1818-Jul. 19, 1881)

Knute Sam?son Fjelle (Aspeland) (Stakkestad) (Sampson K. Sampson)*
(Mar. 11, 1822-Oct. 27, 1912)

m. (June 20, 1843) in Skjold Sogn?, Norway

1. Knute Knuteson Stakkestad (Knute S. Sampson)* (Jul. 13, 1844-..... 1942)

Caroline Eriksdtr Coltveit (Carrie Erickson)*

(....., 1848-June ., 1893)

m. (June 11, 1878) at Ottawa, Illinois

1. Minnie Mae Sampson m. _____

1. Gladys _____ m. Lyle _____ Cross

1. Lola _____ Cross

2. Lois _____ Cross

3. Marjorie _____ Cross

2. Erick (Ira) Sampson m. Emma Weland

1. Carmelite Marie Sampson m. Alfred _____ Johnson

1. Elna Irene Johnson

2. Erling Roger Johnson

3. Shirley Arlene Johnson

2. Pearl Susie Sampson m. Thomas Francis Shea

1. Phyllis Mae Shea

2. Thomas Michael Shea

3. Daniel Morris Shea

4. Mary Elaine Shea

3. Irene Margie Sampson m. Charles Hasley

4. Kenneth Elmer Sampson

5. Kermit W. Sampson*

3. Sam Sampson m. Serine Johansdatter Haage*

1. Esther Sampson m. Martin John William Lestico

1. Arlis Irene Lestico

2. Vernon Lee Lestico

2. Jessie Ingarda Sampson m. Ernest Steve VanWeston

1. Donna Mae VanWeston

2. Lorraine Marian VanWeston

3. Robert Eugene VanWeston

4.

3. Morris Jennings Sampson m. Evelyn _____ Severson

1. Kathleen Joyce Sampson

2. Rodney Morris Sampson

3. Barbara Jean Sampson

4. Julia Ann Sampson

5. Samuel George Sampson

4. Eleanor Leona Sampson m. Frank Howard Gruening

1. Phyllis Jane Gruening

2. Nell Yvonne Gruening

4. Thomas Sampson*

5. Susie Sampson

6. Edward Sampson m. Bertha Camilla Hartman

1. Mabel Marion Sampson

2. Harlen Keith Sampson

3. Dale Homer Sampson

4. Curtis Maxwell Sampson

5. Lester Burnell Sampson

7. Thomas Sampson* m. Alice Mary Moynihan

1. Viola Marie Sampson m. John Joseph Delaney

1. Richard Maurice Delaney

2. Alice Evalena Sampson

3. Bernice Arlene Sampson

4. Edith Magdalene Sampson

8. Bertram Sampson* (twin of Thomas?)

3. Eli Guttormsdatter Musland (Erland) - Erik Nelson Tveit (Aursland)

6. Maren Eriksdatter Aursland & Knute Sampson Fjelle Family continued:

1. Knute Knuteson Stakkestad (Sampson) &
Caroline Eriksdtr Coltveit Family, continued:

9. Bertram Sampson m. Clara _____ Themena

1. Arlette Cecelia Sampson
2. Kermit Thomas Sampson
3. Bernice Clarisse Sampson
4. Janice Susan Sampson
5. Orville Bertram Sampson
6. Gladys Marie Sampson

Knute Knuteson Stakkestad (Knute S. Sampson) remarried

Laura Samuelson* (Feb. 11, 1844-Jan. 7, 1905)

m. (May 1, 1895) at Cedar Rapids, Iowa

2. Erik Knuteson Stakkestad (Ira S. Sampson)* (Feb. 17, 1846-Nov. 21, 1937)
Sarah Ellen Gundersdatter Sovik (Sarah Olson)* (second cousins)
(Nov. 23, 1857-Mch. 25, 1922)

m. (Feb. 19, 1876) at Earlville, Illinois

1. Samuel Thomas Sampson m. Josephine Friesth

1. Eilert Irving Sampson m. Geneva Doris DeWinter

2. George Arthur Sampson m. Clara _____ Smith Davis

3. Martin (Matlain?) Sampson*

4. Mary Ann Sampson m. Wilbur Glen Warner

1. Elva Irene Warner m. Angus _____ McBane (div.)

1. Jo Ann McBane (Jo Ann Williams)

Elva Irene Warner rem. Paul Wilson Williams

1. Jo Ann Williams (adopted)

2. Elmer Glen Warner*

3. Gertrude Elida Warner m. Arthur James Murphy

1. James Warner Murphy

4. Margaret Jeannette Warner m. John Richard Hogan

1. Margaret Ann Hogan

2. Kathleen _____ Hogan

5. Gladys Marie Warner m. Louis Robert Muhl

5. Eva Sampson m. Rasmus A _____ Friesth (brother of Josephine)

1. Esther Mildred Friesth m. Webster Wayne Intermill

1. Infant son*

2. Marvyl Ann Intermill

2. Elmer Sylvester Friesth*

3. Ruth Eunice Friesth

4. Marvyl Josephine Friesth*

5. Gladys Maxine Friesth m. Stanford Wells Griffith

1. Jerrette Friesth Griffith

2. Stanford Friesth Griffith

6. Richard Merlin Friesth*

7. Russell Milan Friesth* (twin of Richard Merlin)

6. Elmer Melvin Sampson*

3. Eli Guttormsdatter Musland (Erland) - Erik Nelson Tveit (Aursland)

6. Maren Eriksdatter Aursland & Knute Sam?son Fjelle Family, continued:

3. Martha Elizabeth Knutesdatter Stakkestad (Martha Sampson)*
(Feb. 24, 1848-May 8, 1927)

Andrew H. Anderson* (July 12, 1848-Dec. 8, 1926)

m. (Dec. 23, 1869) in Miller Twp., LaSalle Co., Illinois

1. Eva Matilda Anderson*

2. Mary Elizabeth Anderson*

3. Margaret Anderson m. Benjamin Rasmussen*

1. Arthur Bennett Rasmussen m. Honor _____ Brodie

1. Mary Althea Rasmussen m. Marcus M _____ Sur*

1. Marcia Mary Sur

Mary Althea Rasmussen rem. Paul Larson

2. Susan Grace Larson

3. Philip Paul Larson

2. Benjamin Arthur Rasmussen

2. Mildred Alda Rasmussen m. Julius Andrew Brodie

(..... of Honor)

1. Margaret Ruth Brodie

2. Frederic William Brodie

3. Graham Andrew Brodie

4. Robert Bruce Brodie

3. Sidney Everett Rasmussen m. Ann _____ Wardenburg (div.)
rem. Irene _____ Jones

4. Russell Nelferd Rasmussen m. Mary Edna McAllister

1. Mary Ann Rasmussen

2. Roger Ward Rasmussen

3. Jean Elizabeth Rasmussen

5. Chester Harold Rasmussen m. Alice Louise Whiteis

1. Jean Ann Rasmussen (adopted)

4. Elmer Eugene Anderson* m. Belle Sina Hanson

1. Alta Fern Anderson

2. Infant daughter* (twin of Alta Fern)

3. Blanche Edith Anderson m. Sigurd Joseph Eike

1. Eugene John Eike

2. Anne Marie Eike

4. Elbert Archie Anderson m. Ebal _____ Gillette

1. Gary Lee Anderson

2. Carol Jean Anderson

5. Infant son*

6. Silas Russell Anderson m. Helen E _____ Durkey

1. Eldon Eugene Anderson

7. Kenneth Weston Anderson m. Mavis Ruth Foreman

1. Wesley Keith Anderson

2. June Louise Anderson

3. Kenneth Wayne Anderson

5. Mary Elizabeth Anderson* m. Joseph Olie Anders

(rem. Mabel Cedelia Oswood)

1. Marjorie Josephine Anders m. Russel Jerome Grunstad*

rem. Leonard _____ Carlson

1. Mary Ruth Grunstad

2. Jean Elizabeth Carlson

2. Ruth Lillian Anders m. Irving _____ Sandvick

1. Paul _____ Sandvick

2. Kathryn _____ Sandvick

3. Helen Elizabeth Anders m. Claude _____ Ferris

1. William _____ Ferris

4. Joseph Wilbur Anders m. Jane _____

1. Thomas _____ Anders

3. Eli Guttormsdatter Musland (Erland) - Erik Nelson Tveit (Aursland)

6. Maren Eriksdatter Aursland & Knute Sam?son Fjelle Family, continued:

4. Ellen Serena Knutesdatter Stakkestad (Ellen Sampson)*
(Feb. 25, 1850 - Mch. 12, 1931)

Endre _____ son Taug (Andrew Tow)* (Apr. 3, 1837 - Apr. 3, 1915)
m. (Mch. 5, 1874) at Morris, Illinois

1. Samuel Tow*

2. Cyrus Tow m. Cora Priscilla Test

1. Margaret Jennie Tow*

2. Marjorie Gladys Tow m. Robert _____ Lamb (div.)
rem. Harold John Peterson

1. Marjorie Ann Peterson

3. Esther Lillian Tow m. Stanley Laughlin Vance

1. Shirley Ann Vance

2. John Stanley Vance

3. Martha Ellen Vance

4. Theodore (Ted) C _____ Tow m. Clara _____ Stapp

1. Ted C _____ Tow

2. Tamara Lee Tow

5. Dorothy Ellen Tow m. Harvey Howard Bauer

1. Beverly Langstaff Bauer

2. Philip Gregory Bauer

6. Kenneth Andrew Tow m. Corrine _____ Carlson

1. Larry Carl Tow

2. Mary Ann Tow

7. Florence Cora Tow m. Edward _____ Tow (second cousins)

1. Thomas Edward Tow

2. Karen Sara Tow

3. Kristin _____ Tow

3. Mary Tow

4. Martha Elizabeth Tow m. Conrad Roseland*

1. Mary Ellen Roseland m. Burke Albert Hintz

1. Christine Roseland Hintz

2. Albert Carl Hintz

3. Owen Andrew Hintz

4. Michael Burke Hintz

5. Sadie Tow

6. Elmer Tow m. Elizabeth Russell

1. Russell Andrew Tow*

2. Margaret Lorene Tow m. Edward John George Rinderknecht

1. Barbara Jean Rinderknecht

2. Elizabeth Louise Rinderknecht

3. William Edward Rinderknecht

3. Jean Elizabeth Tow m. Myron Gerald Thomas

7. Bertha Elizabeth Tow (Bessie Tow) m. Richard Christian Miller

1. Helen Elizabeth Miller

2. Ruth Ellen Miller

3. Richard John Miller m. Mary Joan Sternlight

4. Andrew William Miller

3. Eli Guttormsdatter Musland (Erland) - Erik Nelson Tveit (Aursland)

6. Maren Eriksdatter Aursland & Knute Sam?son Fjelle Family, continued:

5. Bertha Maria Knutesdatter Stakkestad (Betsey Sampson)*
(May 25, 1854-Apr. 9, 1937)

Jeremiah Anderson* (Apr. 15, 1852-Apr. 2, 1912) (brother of Andrew)
m. (Dec. 16, 1874) at Morris, Illinois

1. Eva Matilda Anderson m. Thomas Marseilles Thorson

1. Ruth _____ Thorson m. Leon _____ Jackson

1. Loretta Roselyn Jackson

2. Janice Elaine Jackson

2. Raymond _____ Thorson m. Ella Sophia Arneson

1. Se Vern Lois Thorson m. Elmer _____ Newell

2. Evelyn Twila Thorson m. Marvin _____ Olson

3. Rose Ethelyn Thorson

4. Thomas Severt Thorson

5. Roger Eldon Thorson

3. Jesse Kenneth Thorson m. Irene Karlet Brue

1. Delores Ann Thorson

2. Kenneth Eugene Thorson

3. Mary Lynn Thorson

2. Mabel Elizabeth Anderson m. Albert Elias Hayer*

1. Jason Marian Hayer m. Blanche Dorothy Anderson

1. Marian Blanche Hayer

2. Adelbert Eugene Hayer

2. Sadie Alberta Hayer m. Stanley Merrill Peterson

1. Wendell Stanley Peterson

2. Infant son*

3. Margaret Ardella Hayer m. Clyde Dallas Boldt

1. Ronald Eugene Boldt

2. Joanne Marie Boldt

3. James Dallas Boldt (twin of Joanne Marie)

4. Gordon Hayer Boldt

3. Ida May Anderson m. Zenas Milton Hayer (brother of Albert)

1. Earl Le Roy Hayer m. Grace _____ Garrett

2. Gordon Lowell Hayer

4. Silas Edward Anderson*

5. Thomas Martin Anderson*

6. Elnora Anderson m. Orville Heman Midgorden

1. Bertha Isabella Midgorden

2. Frances Marie Midgorden m. Ray Herbert Johnson Jr.

3. Martha Anne Midgorden

7. Martin Julian Anderson m. Cora Maude Hayer (2nd cousin of
Albert; and of T.M. Thorson)

1. Robert Hayer Anderson

2. Ellis Dale Anderson

8. Mildred Sarah Anderson m. Leonard Justis Midgorden (.....
of Orville)

1. Helen Jeannette Midgorden m. David William Middleton

1. John William Middleton

2. Ruth Louise Midgorden

3. John Leonard Midgorden

3. Eli Guttormsdatter Musland (Erland) - Erik Nelson Tveit (Aursland)

6. Maren Eriksdatter Aursland & Knute Sam?son Fjelle Family, concluded:

6. Guttorm Knuteson Stakkestad* (....., 1852?-....., 1855)

7. Serena Olena (Sallie) Sampson* (May 2, 1857-June 12, 1934)

William E _____ Williamson* (Feb. 4, 1852-Oct. 29, 1914)

m. (Dec. 12, 1878) at Sampson's, Miller Twp., LaSalle Co.
Illinois

1. Silas Emery Williamson*

2. Mamie Camilla Williamson m. Orrin Timer Hayer (brother of Cora)

1. Winnifred La Vern Hayer* m. Willis _____ Thorson*
(..... of Thomas M.)

1. Wilda Frances Thorson

Winnifred La Vern Hayer* rem. Jesse _____ Olson

2. Keith Orvan Olson

2. Russel Walter Hayer m. Alice Edith Eike (..... of Sigurd)

1. Ruth Alice Hayer

3. Leo Field Hayer m. Florence Bernice Gregg

4. Frances Lillian Hayer m. Ora Alton Catlin

1. Barbara Ann Catlin

2. Ora Alton Catlin Jr.

5. William E _____ Hayer m. Mary Margaret Mathes

1. Jean Kathleen Hayer

3. Edith _____ Williamson*

4. Silas Emery Williamson m. June Althea Martin*

1. Charlotte Alda Williamson

2. Martin Lyle Williamson

5. Charlotte Alda Williamson* m. Chris _____ Hartshorn (rem.)

1. Lois Christine Hartshorn m. Alvin _____ Misselt

6. Ethel Helen Williamson

7. Ernest Charles Williamson m. Stella Mae Olson

1. Margery Helen Williamson

2. Ronald Keith Williamson

3. Kenneth La Verne Williamson

7. Erik Erikson Aursland (Erick Erickson)* (Apr. 4, 1822-....., 1850)

3. Eli Guttormsdatter Musland (Erland) - Erik Nelson Tveit (Aursland)
8. Eli Serena (Sarah) Eriksdtr Aursland* (Feb. 2, 1825-Oct. 10, 1915)
Ole Nelson Storesund (Ole Nelson)* (....., 1801?-Apr. ..., 1857)
m. (....., 1846) in Skjold Sogn?, Norway
1. Nels Oleson Storesund (Nels O. Nelson)* (Oct. 23, 1848-May 12, 1940)
Susan Smith Chentland (Aug. 8, 1854-) (Aunt of Burton)
m. (Dec. 3, 1873) at Humboldt, Iowa
1. William Oliver Nelson m. Margaret Josephine Bergeson
1. Infant daughter*
2. Gladys Ione Nelson m. Joseph Darwin Fretty*
1. Joseph Darwin Fretty Jr.
Gladys Ione Nelson rem. Ronald G. Evenson
3. Nolan Omer Nelson m. Lets Jennie Mason
1. Allan William Nelson
2. Phyllis Joanne Nelson
3. Maxine Jean Nelson
4. Nolan Junior Nelson
4. Elvira Serian Nelson m. Clyde William Butterfield
5. Edna Bernice Nelson*
6. Virginia Josephine Nelson m. John Francis Nangle
1. Lorraine Violet Nangle
2. John Francis Nangle Jr.
3. _____ Nangle
7. Virgil William Nelson (twin of Virginia) m. Violet Jo Ellen Clark
1. Carol Jo Ellen Nelson
2. Thomas Amos Nelson m. Agnes Patrina Larson
1. Ethel Charlotte Nelson m. Glen Alexander Stensrud
1. Marilys Ann Stensrud
2. Barbara Jane Stensrud
3. Charles Arthur Stensrud 4. Richard Glen Stensrud
2. Edna Marie Nelson m. William J. Teunis
1. William Neal Teunis
2. Herman _____ Teunis
3. Esther Lucille Nelson m. Merrill R. Holste
1. Loren Frederick Holste
4. Sadie Agnes Nelson m. Karl _____ Kreilkamp
1. Thomas Aquinas Kreilkamp
5. Neal Ogden Nelson*
6. Thomas Amos Nelson
7. George Robert Nelson
8. Susanne Louise Nelson
3. Sadie Henrietta Nelson m. Edward Guttorm Quamme*
1. Edith Harriet Quamme m. Allan Henry Meinecke
1. Judith Lee Meinecke
2. Agnes Charlotte Quamme m. Benjamin Howard Higgins
1. Holway Chentland Higgins
3. Dorothea Edna Quamme m. Frederick Hubert Lemmer
1. Frederick Edward Lemmer
4. Victoria Nelson Quamme
4. Charles Marion Nelson m. Jennie _____ Finn (div.)
1. Ruth Marion Nelson
2. Vera Mae Nelson
3. Cecyl Evelyn Nelson m. Meldean _____ Havelirud
4. Charles Marion Nelson Jr. m. Marian _____ LaPlante
1. Charles Marion Nelson III
5. Patrick _____ Nelson m. Betty _____ Powell
1. Marvin _____ Nelson
2. _____ Nelson
6. Elaine _____ Nelson m. _____ Zachman
1. _____ Zachman
7. Infant son*
- Charles Marion Nelson rem. Alta _____
5. Edith Christena Nelson
6. John Darwin Nelson* m. Elsie _____ Stevens (rem.)
2. Amelia Inger Nelson* (May 26, 1856-Sept. 26, 1873)

3. Eli Guttormsdatter Musland (Erland) - Erik Nelson Tveit (Aursland)

8. Eli Serine (Sarah) Eriksdatter Aursland Family, continued:

Eli Serine (Sarah) Eriksdatter Aursland remarried

John Hanson Osteinstad (John Hanson)* (Dec.24,1827-Feb.7,1907)
m. (Dec.18,1858) near Baker, Illinois

3. Hans Ole Hanson* (Apr.1,1859-Oct.26,1915)

Rachel Bergeson (Apr.18,1867-) (sister of Josephine)
m. (Feb.19,1889) near Baker, Illinois

1. Sadie Amy Hanson m. Tennis Bernhart Mickelson

1. Bernice Rachel Mickelson m. Irvin _____ Steffens

1. David Wendell Steffens

2. Joanne _____ Steffens

2. Donald Bernhart Mickelson m. Wyvonne _____ Stanley

1. Stanley Kent Mickelson

2. Sandra Sue Mickelson

3. Ruth Jeanette Mickelson m. Russel _____ Lewis

1. Shirley Ann Lewis

4. Richard Amon Mickelson

5. Nolan Harmon Mickelson

6. Gordon Allen Mickelson

7. Norma Deloris Mickelson

2. Jennie Olive Hanson

3. Pearl Amelia Hanson m. Carl Okee Jasper Friedlund

1. Harriet Ferne Friedlund

2. Ardell Ruth Friedlund m. Howard _____ Wilson

1. Gary Michael Wilson

3. Charles Okee Friedlund*

4. Hiram Royal Hanson m. Agnes _____ Fonley

1. Robert Fay Hanson

2. James Allen Hanson

3. Rachel Ann Hanson

4. Carroll Jean Hanson

5. John Hiram Hanson

6. Harold Orvis Hanson

7. Janet June Hanson

8. Donna Lee Hanson

5. Fremont Henry Hanson*

3. Eli Guttormsdatter Musland (Erland) - Erik Nelson Tveit (Aursland)

8. Eli Serine Eriksdtr Aursland & John Hanson Osteinstad Family,
continued:

4. Ira Hanson* (Feb. 11, 1861-Jan. 4, 1940)

Isabelle Annette (Nettie) Anderson* (June 25, 1868-Oct. 22, 1925)

m. (Feb. 26, 1890) near Baker, Illinois

(Annette was a grand niece of Sampson K. Sampson and a
niece of Mary Ander?sdatter Brainard (Thomason))

1. Mildred Serena Hanson m. Oscar William Peterson*

1. Harold Ira Peterson*

2. Irene Frances Peterson

3. Ferne Loretta Peterson m. Charles Lionel Garton*

1. Stanley Charles Garton

Ferne Loretta Peterson rem. Ernest LuVerne Cope

2. Vivian Faye Cope

3. Virgil William Cope

4. Audrey Sena Peterson m. Raymond Edward Smith

1. Barbara Kaye Smith

5. Allen Dale Peterson*

6. Bruce Arnold Peterson m. Arlys Fern Johanson

7. Irma Jean Peterson

8. Mildred Joan Peterson

2. Jesse Arthur Hanson

3. Myron Henry Hanson

4. Amelia Matilda Hanson

5. Irving Amos Hanson m. Mary _____ Dorn

1. Ronald Eugene Hanson

2. Grayden Joseph Hanson

3. Judith Annette Hanson

4. Mary Margo Hanson*

5. Karene Mary Hanson

6. John Ira Hanson

7. Marsha Mary Hanson

6. Everett Hanson

7. Leroy Aaron Hanson

5. Anna Matilda Hanson* (Mch. 30, 1863-May 3, 1948)

Peder Aadneson Egeland (Peter Egeland)* (Oct. 26, 1861-Apr. 4, 1941)

m. (Mch. 1, 1894) near Baker, Illinois

1. Serina Almira Egeland m. Omer Leonard Tuftee

1. Allen Omer Tuftee

2. Pearl Jean Tuftee

3. Howard Ralph Tuftee

4. Ruth Gertrude Tuftee

2. Hazel Annette Egeland m. Tellef _____ Thorsen

3. Arthur Nelson Egeland m. Margaret Josephine Osmund

6. Henry Martin Hanson* (Nov. 5, 1865-Jul. 6, 1867)

3. Eli Guttormsdatter Musland (Erland) - Erik Nelson Tveit (Aursland)

9. Anna Marthe Eriksdatter Aursland (Anna Martha Erickson)*
(Aug. 27, 1830-Aug. 22, 1864)
Anders Knudson Waethe (Andrew Knudson)* (Aug. 25, 1820-Jan. 19, 1875)
m. (May 29, 1851) at Ottawa, Illinois
1. Eli (Ellen) Knudson* (Apr. 3, 1853-Feb. 21, 1938)
Samuel Mather* (Nov. 18, 1846-Feb. 6, 1920)
m. (June 26, 1878) near Yorkville, Illinois
1. Rachel Evans Mather m. Stephen Hayes Bush
1. Millicent Ellen Bush m. John Arthur Dearth
2. Edith Louise Mather m. Henry Houghton Schumacher* (Houghton Page)
1. Judith Content Page m. Clement Scott Miller
1. Christine Virginia Miller
3. Lydia Jeannette Mather m. Frederic Pomeroy Lord
1. Frederic Mather Lord m. Vera _____ Clark (div.)
rem. Theda Moss (div.)
rem. Shirley Arline Hanfman
4. Paul Mather (Paul V. Mather) m. Ruth Anderson*
1. Paul Anderson Mather (Paul V. Mather Jr.)
m. Gladys Maxine Herdman
1. Richard Alexander Mather
2. Emma Louise Mather m. Harold Sylvester Griffith
1. John Mather Griffith
2. Robert Paul Griffith
3. Nancy Ruth Griffith
3. Ellen Roberta Mather m. Cecil Thomas Jantz
1. Shirley Jeanne Jantz
2. Judy Lynn Jantz
4. Patricia Ann Mather
Paul V. Mather rem. Millicent Hayes Bush (div.)
5. Anna Martha (Beth) Mather m. Frederick Goodson Higbee
1. Frederick Goodson Higbee Jr. m. Dorothy Eleanore Wicks
1. Kay Ann Higbee
2. Beth Ellen Higbee
3. Susan Dorothy Higbee
2. Jay Anders Higbee m. Vada Marie Lind
6. Samuel Anders Mather (Anders V. Mather) m. Alleda Zwickey
1. Anders V. Mather Jr. m. Helen Hinkhouse
1. Kenneth Anders Mather
2. Lester Eugene Mather (Eugene V. Mather) m. Julie Marie Eiler
1. Cotton Vethe Mather
3. Helen Alleda Mather m. Harold Winters Olmsted
1. Susan Alleda Olmsted
4. Phillip Howard Mather*
7. Ellen Elvira Mather*
2. Erik Cornelius Knudson (Edward Knudson)* (Mar. 8, 1855-Nov. 5, 1882)

3. Eli Guttormsdatter Musland (Erland) - Erik Nelson Tveit (Aursland)

9. Anna Marthe Eriksdtr Aursland & Anders Knudson Waethe Family,
concluded:

3. Sarah Anna Knudson* (Oct. 18, 1856-Jul. 5, 1944)

Frank Christianson Christianson (Frank C. Christian)*

(Jul. 4, 1854-Aug. 4, 1921)

m. (Dec. 31, 1877) near Yorkville, Illinois

1. Mabel Arvila Christian m. Sampson Wallace Arthur*

1. John Franklin Arthur m. Isobel Winnifred (Sadie) McLachlin

1. John Scott Arthur

2. Charles Sampson Arthur

2. Jean Christian Arthur

3. Vleria Wotta (foster child) m. James Guy Capell

1. James Arthur Capell

2. Reuben Edward Christian m. Fern Florence Rich

1. Ruth Leone Christian m. Walter E _____ Fellers

1. Greg Edwin Fellers

2. Wayne Edward Christian

3. Dale Rich Christian

3. Mildred Anna Christian m. Charles Glen Mather (1st cousins)
(div.) (rem.)

1. Sarah Lou Mather

4. Russell Franklin Christian m. Leila (Lelia?) Albert

1? Infant son*

2? Joyce Elizabeth Christian m. Alan Joseph Beucher

3? Infant daughter*

4. Mary Knudson* (July 4, 1860-Apr. 18, 1936)

Charles Evans Mather* (Dec. 8, 1850-Nov. 29, 1917)

(brother? of Samuel)

m. (Feb. 13, 1883) near Yorkville, Illinois

1. Edward Knudson Mather m. Mary _____ Cheney*

1. Margaret _____ Mather m. Stanley E _____ Shafer

1. Thomas Mather Shafer

2. Judith Annatte Shafer

2. Charles Albert Mather

2. Ralph Jesse Mather m. Adele _____ Bray

3. Charles Glen Mather m. Mildred Anna Christian (1st cousins)

(div.)

1. Sarah Lou Mather

Charles Glen Mather rem. _____

4. William John Mather m. Mabel _____ Etney

1. Charles E _____ Mather

2. Margaret E _____ Mather

5. Kenneth A _____ Mather m. Alice _____

1. Winnifred E _____ Mather

4.Osmund Guttormson Musland (Erland) (Meling) (Osmund Thomason)*
(Mch.20,1788-Jul.16,1876)

Bertha Mattiasdatter Sorvaag* (.....,1794-Apr.22,1883)

m. (.....) in Skjold Sogn?, Norway

1.Maren Osmundsdatter Erland (Mary Thomason)*(May 16,1819-May 16,1898)

Maas Maason Ege (Mads Madison)* (Oct.14,1813-Sept.1,1893)

m. (Sept.15,1840) in Twp., LaSalle Co., Illinois

1.Anna Madison* (Jan.9,1842-Mch.13,1923)

Andrew _____ Christian* (.....,1820-.....)

m. (Dec.29,1859) at,Illinois (div.)

1.Alfred B _____ Christian* m. Susan _____ Henry

1.Hazel _____ Christian m.

2.Walter Alfred Christian m. Marcelle _____ Servoss

2?Infant daughter*

3?Infant son*

4?Infant daughter*

Anna Madison* remarried

Seth _____ Woodward* (.....-.....)

m. (.....) at Fairmont, Nebraska (div.)

Anna Madison* remarried

John G _____ McFadden* (Jan.30,1831-Aug.12,1912)

m. (May 16,1904) at Los Angeles, California

2.Bertha Madison* (Jul.16,1843-Oct.19,1896)

Joseph Smith III* (Nov. 6,1832-Dec.10,1914)

m. (Nov.12,1869) at Sandwich, Illinois

1.David Carlos Smith*

2.Mary Audentia Smith m. Benjamin M _____ Anderson

1.Bertha Audentia Anderson m. Alfred Willard Hulmes*

rem. Theodore C _____ Dickman

1.Alfred Willard Hulmes Jr. m. Marjorie Ann Zuelsdorf(div.)

1.Shauna Jane Hulmes

2.Doris Barbara Hulmes m. Hugh Martin

1.Douglas Craig Martin

2.Doris Zuleika Anderson m. Harlow Grafton Fredrick

1.Jane Audentia Fredrick m. Moses Oscar Overstreet (div.)

rem.James Francis Howard Moran

2.Doris Elizabeth Fredrick m. Robert Eugene Kuhnert

1.Doris Elizabeth Kuhnert

3.Harlow Grafton Fredrick Jr. m. Donna _____ Wideman

4.Janet Rogene Fredrick

3.Enger Viola Anderson*

4.Azul Anderson*

5.Benjamin Meredith Anderson*

6.Duane Smith Anderson m. Mary Katherine Dillon

1.Maralyn Margaret Anderson

2.Dorothy Dillon Anderson

7.Lucy Rogene Anderson m. Norman Edward Prucha

1.Claire Rogene Prucha

2.Norman Edward Prucha Jr.

3.Frederick Madison Smith* m. Ruth Lyman Cobb*

1.Alice Myrmida Smith m. Frank Henry Edwards

1.Francis Lyman Edwards

2.Infant* (twin of Francis)

3.Paul Madison Edwards

4.Ruth Helen Edwards (adopted)

2.Loïs Audentia Smith m. Edward Julius Larsen

1.Frederick Niels Larsen

2.Stephen Page Larsen

3.Laura Anina Larsen

4.Larry _____ Larsen (twin of Laura)

5.Daniel Madison Larsen

6. _____ Larsen

4.Osmund Guttormson Musland(Erland)(Meling) - Bertha Mattiasdtr Sorvaag

1.Maren Osmundsdr Erland(Thomason)&Maas Maason Ege Family, continued:

2.Bertha Madison & Joseph Smith III Family, continued:

4.Israel Alexander Smith m. Nina Marie Grenawalt

1.Joseph Perrine Smith

2.Donald Carlos Smith m. Darlene Baughman

5.Kenneth Smith*

6.Bertha Azuba Smith*

7.Hale Washington Smith m. Rogene Bertha Munsell (div.)

1.Carol Rogene Smith m. William Russell Genrich

1.William Russell Genrich Jr.

2.Rogene Carol Genrich

3.Rae Aldine Genrich

2.Bertha Aldine Smith m. Lee Denny Cornwall

1.Patricia Lee Cornwall

2.Lee Denny Cornwall

3.Kent Thayles Cornwall

Hale Washington Smith rem. Kate Frances Snow Rhodes

8.Blossom Smith*

9.Lucy Yetieve Smith* m. Jesse Melvin Lysinger*

1.Doris Rae Lysinger m.Arthur Colin Ferrett(Colin C.Ferrett)

1.Cedric Colin Ferrett

2.Linda Rae Ferrett*

2.Smith DeWalt Lysinger*

3.Philip Eugene Lysinger m. Lucille Eloise Marshall (div.)
rem. Olga _____ Sternquist

1.Mary Lee Lysinger

2.Margaret Rae Lysinger

4.Sigmund Alfred Lysinger*

5.Frederick Lansing Lysinger m. Charlotte _____ Murray (div.)
rem.Aurelia _____ VanWinkle

1. _____ Lysinger

6.Franklin Hale Lysinger

3.Martin Madison* (Jul.24,1845-Oct.12,1929)

Ellen _____ Danielson* (Dec.4,1844-Jan.13,1929)

m. (.....) at

1.Mary _____ Madison*m. Samuel McCullough*

1.Philo _____ McCullough

2.Philo Thomas Madison*

3.Forrest Lamont Madison m. Eva Grace Smith*

1.Lamont Kendall Madison m. Claire _____ Clyma

1? _____ Madison

2?Forrest P _____ Madison

Lamont Kendall Madison rem. _____

3? _____ Madison

Forrest Lamont Madison rem. Katherine _____ *

4.Mary Ann Madison* (Nov.26,1847-Apr.23,1848)

5.Mary Ann Madison* (Feb.12,1849-Apr.10,1849)

6.Osmund Madison* (Apr.24,1851-May 16,1907)

Alice _____ Baxter* (.....-.....,1928)

m. (.....) at Lamoni, Iowa

1.Lena _____ Madison*? m. Earl _____ Bailey (sep.?)

7.Mary Amelia Madison* (Nov.13,1854-Feb.14,1883)

Hosea _____ Kenyon (.....-.....)

m. (Apr...,1880) at Plano, Illinois

1.Infant*

8.Josephine Louise Madison* (Nov.22,1857-Jan.12,1908)

4.Osmund Guttormson Musland(Erland)(Meling) - Bertha Mattiasdtr Sorvaag

2.Erik Osmundson Erland (Meling) (Ira Thomason)*

(June 11,1825-Oct.18,1898)

Mary Anders?datter Brainard* (Nov.4,1834-Aug.14,1920)

m. (Dec.21,1852) at ,Illinois

(Mary was an aunt of Isabelle Annette Anderson Hanson)

1.Emma _____ Thomason* (Apr.30,1854-Mch.20,1880)

Palmer Fisk Kinne*(.....-.....)

m. (Sept.19,1874) at Leland, Illinois

1.Mable Lillian Kinne* m. George J _____ Shonehair

1.Dorothy _____ Shonehair m. _____

1.

2.Leland _____ Shonehair m. _____ (div.)

3.Maxine _____ Shonehair

4.George _____ Shonehair

5. _____ Shonehair

6. _____ Shonehair

2.Pearl _____ Kinne m. Clarence Griffith*

1.James _____ Griffith

2. _____ Griffith

3. _____ Griffith

4. _____ Griffith

5. _____ Griffith

3.Infant Daughter* (named?)

2.Benjamin _____ Thomason* (Jul.20,1855- Jul.21,1855)

3.Otis Thomason* (Jul.10,1856-Jul.11,1856)

4.Isabelle Eva Thomason* (June 6,1857-Dec....,1934)

Henry McLean Hopewell* (.....-.....)

m. (Dec.19,1878) at? Tekamah, Nebraska

1.Oscar Reeves Hopewell m. Nellie _____ Sutherland

1.Henry _____ Hopewell

2.Dorothy _____ Hopewell

3. _____ Hopewell

4. _____ Hopewell

5. _____ Hopewell

2.Florence Eva Hopewell*

5.Henry Oscar Thomason* (Jul.15,1859-Oct....,1922)

Lillian Dripps* (.....-Nov.12,1923)

m. (Jul.26,1822) at Storm Lake, Iowa

1.Madge Enid Thomason m. Otto August Simdars*

1.Joyce DayEtte Simdars m. _____

2.Otto Thomason Simdars m. _____

3.Paul Henry Simdars m. _____

Madge Enid Thomason rem. Hiram J _____ Waters

2.Eric Burdette Thomason m. Laura _____ Kalberg

1.Audrey (Adell) Thomason

3.Errol Llewellyn m. Josie _____ Gilcrist

1.Jessie Lillian Thomason

6.Edward Spurgeon Thomason* (May 25,1861-Sept.15,1867)

7.Ida Mary Thomason* (Mch.9,1865-Oct.16,1865)

8.Seward Lincoln Thomason* (Mch.9,1865-Aug.30,1878)

(twin of Ida Mary)

4.Osmund Guttormson Musland(Erland)(Meling) - Bertha Mattiasdtr Sorvaag

2.Erik Osmundson Erland (Meling) (Ira Thomason) &
Mary Anders?datter Brainard Family,concluded:

9.Andrew Elmer Thomason* (Dec.3,1867-Oct.1/2,1914)
Angeline Julia Pierce (Apr.1,1873-)
m. (May 4,1893) at

- 1.Ira LeRoy Thomason m. Ora _____ Porter
 - 1.Dorothy Jean Thomason
 - 2.Eric Porter Thomason
- 2.Julia Ruth Thomason m. Guilo Ellsworth Seivert
 - 1.Carolyn _____ Seivert
 - 2.Beverly Julia Seivert
- 3.Earl _____ Thomason*
- 4.Clarence _____ Thomason
- 5.Mary Inez Thomason m. Alvin W _____ Stacey
 - 1.Alvin Thomason Stacey

10.Alice Irene Thomason* (Sept.10,1867-Jul.29,1910)
Clifford Sampson Laughlin (Jan.27,1870-) (rem.)
m. (Nov.11,1897) near Alta, Iowa

- 1.Mary Irene Laughlin
- 2.Elnora Alice Laughlin
- 3.Thomas Jackson Laughlin m. Mary Gale Rhodes*
 - 1.Gale Rhodes Laughlin
 - Thomas Jackson Laughlin rem. Anne _____ Briscoe
- 4.Kenneth Clifford Laughlin m. Billie _____ Tabor
 - 1.Kenneth Michael Laughlin
 - 2.Jo Alice Laughlin

11.Walter Brainard Thomason (Dec.7,1871-)
Mary _____ Hornibrook (.....-)
m. (May 28,1901) at

- 1.Edward Hornibrook Thomason
- 2.Walter Brainard Thomason Jr.
- 3.Rosemary _____ Thomason m. Paul B? _____ Scoles
 - 1.Marinell _____ Scoles

12.Grace Madelle Thomason (Apr.13,1875-)
John Russell Hitchings (Aug.29,1875-)
m. (June 25,1901) near Alta, Iowa

- 1.Helen Clare Hitchings
- 2.Alice Mary Hitchings
- 3.Jean Grace Hitchings m. Raymond Darwin Chase
- 4.Cora Isabel Hitchings m. Frank Rennick Garland
 - 1.Charles Hitchings Garland
 - 2.Robert Edward Garland
- 5.Marion Ruth Hitchings m. John Val Holmes
 - 1.John Russell Holmes
 - 2.Thomas Henry Holmes

4.Osmund Guttormson Musland (Erland) (Meling) -
Bertha Mattiasdatter Sorvaag

3.Guttorm Osmundson Erland (Meling) (Thomas Thomasson)*
(Feb.25,1826-Nov.24,1906)

Torbjor _____ sdtr _____ (Tabitha Agent)* (.....-.....)
m. (July 20,1851) at,LaSalle Co.?, Illinois

1.Infant son*(Sept.2,1852-Sept.16,1852)

2?Francis _____ Thomasson (.....-.....)
_____ (.....-.....)
m. (.....) at

1. _____ Thomasson
2. _____ Thomasson

3?Sarah _____ Thomasson (.....-.....)
_____ Flinders (.....-.....)
m. (.....) at Shabbona, Illinois

1. _____ Flinders* (daughter 6 months old)

4?Thomas _____ Thomasson* (.....-.....)

5?Martha M _____ Thomasson* (Jan.31,1861-Oct.6,1861)

6?Emery J _____ Thomasson* (Nov.21,1861-Sept.29,1876)

7?Emily J _____ Thomasson* (Nov.21,1861-Apr.27,1886)
(twin of Emery)

8?Charlotte _____ Thomasson (.....-.....)
_____ Scribner (.....-.....)
m. (.....) at

1.Clare _____ Scribner

9?Addie _____ Thomasson* (.....-.....)

10?Infant daughter* (Jan.19,1866-Jan.19,1866)

11?Eunice E _____ Thomasson* (Jan.19,1866-Feb.19,1868)
(twin of preceding)

12?Ella _____ Thomasson* (.....-.....)
Charles (Chat) _____ Kellogg (.....-.....)
m. (.....) at, Illinois

1?Cecil _____ Kellogg

2?Orville _____ Kellogg

3?Nina _____ Kellogg

4? _____ Kellogg

5? _____ Kellogg

4.Osmund Guttormson Musland (Erland) (Meling) -
Bertha Mattiasdatter Sorvaag

4.Osmund Osmundson Erland (Meling) (Osmund Thomason Jr.)
(Aug.31,1831-May 25,1918)
Gulia Thoresdatter Grindeim (Julia Gunderson*)
(Apr.22,1837-May 20,1927)
m. (Feb.10,1857) inLaSalle Co.,Illinois

1.Ellen Bertha (Ella) Thomason* (May 21,1858-Feb.8,1940)
Christian F_____ Hayer* (Oct.29,1848-Oct.30,1928)
m. (Oct.10,1878) at Leland, Illinois
(Christian was a first cousin of Lorenzo, Julia M.,and
Charles Hayer; and a first cousin,once removed, of
Orrin T., Cora,.Zenas, and Albert E.Hayer)
1.Vera Evelyn Hayer (adopted) m. Lewis H_____ Redenbaugh

2.Franklin Osmund Thomason* (.....,1860-Feb.18,1941)
Bertha _____ Williamson* (.....-Dec.8,1932)
m. (.....) at Ottawa, Illinois
1.Myrtle Juliette Thomason*
2.Olive _____ Thomason*
3.Neal Osmund Thomason m. Vera _____ Morgan (div.)
1.Neal _____ Thomason
Neal Osmund Thomason rem. Pauline _____
4.Gladys Delight Thomason
5.Burdette _____ Thomason m. Alice _____

3.Henry Mathias Thomason (Sept.,6,1863-)
Lydia Martha Harris (Aug.29,1872-)
m. (Feb.1,1894) at Eagle Grove, Iowa
1.Lawrence Melvin Thomason m. Agnes _____ Glosser
2.Howard Henry Thomason m. Gail _____ Draper
3.Maurice Walter Thomason
4.Lyda Juliette Thomason

4.William Arthur Thomason (June 5,1867-)
Jennie Herron (Jan.18,1871-)
m. (Dec.18,1890) at Lebanon, Missouri
1.Esther Marie Thomason m. Meredith Elias Haynes*
1.Donald Sylvester Haynes
2.Meredith Haynes*
2.Lyda Ruth Thomason m. Franklin _____ Newcomb
1.Vernon Webster Newcomb
2.Infant son*
3.Mary Ruth Newcomb
3.Willard Blair Thomason m. Florence Louise Thompson
1.Phyllis Verona? Thomason
2.Delores Virginia? Thomason
3.Dale _____ Thomason
4.Oren William Thomason
5.Wilma Marie Thomason
4.Wayne LeRoy Thomason m. Eunice _____ Morgan
5.Hazel Narcissa Thomason m. Glen Wesley? Thompson
(brother of Florence)
1.Duane Wesley Thompson
2.Donald Dean Thompson
3.Darlene Janet? Thompson
6.Leonard Francis Thomason m. Frances Lillian? Messer
1.Dorothy Lillian Thomason
2.Darlyle _____ Thomason
3.Mary Lynn Thomason

5.David Alexander Thomason* (May 4,1869-Feb.22,1870)

6.Lyda Olive Juliette* (Oct.21,1874-Jul. ,1893)

4.Osmund Guttormson Musland (Erland) (Meling) -
Bertha Mattiasdatter Sorvaag

5.Mattias Osmundson Meling* (.....-.....)

6.Mattias Osmundson Meling* (.....-.....)

7.M.Anne Osmundsdt Meling (Ann Thomason)* (Jul.4,1834-Feb.24,1921)
Krist Kristenson Walde (Christopher Danielson)*
(Jan.4,1835-Mar.22,1917)
m. (Jul.5,1856) at Earlville, Illinois

1.Martin Jacob Danielson* (Apr.13, 1857-Mch.17,1917)

Julia Marie Hayer* (Jan.21,1859-Jan.11,1931)

m. (.....) at Danway, Illinois

1.Henry Clarence Danielson m. Evelyn Mabel Jessiman

1.Henry Carl Danielson m. Rolene Galiazzis

1.Corlene Danielson

2.Helen Jessiman Danielson m. Raymond Nathaniel Priester(div.)
rem. James Alexander Weis

3.Ruth Clarice Danielson m. Donald Allison (div.)
rem. Ronald Wallace

2.Estella Almira Danielson* m. Arthur Marion Smith (rem.)

1.Verl Marion Smith m. Vivian Kimber

1.Gerald Arthur Smith

2.Evelyn Grace Smith

2.Karl Kendle Smith m. Veronica McAndrews

3.Alexander Martin Smith m. Elizabeth Darlene Gould

1.Estella Alice Smith

4.Kenneth Julian Smith m. Edna Rae Flint

1.Alexander Hale Smith

2.June Carol Smith*

5.Elizabeth Marie Smith m. Edwin L Pearson (div.)

6.Arthur Granger Smith

3.Pearl Gladys Danielson m. Leander Gomer Kelley

1.Doris Ellen Kelley m. William Clark Haden

1.Linda Haden

2. Haden

2.William Lee Kelley

3.Ardith Marie Kelley*

4.James Marion Kelley m. _____

1.Karla Marie Kelley

4.Vera Edith Danielson m. Carl Marcus Hynden

1.Carl Marcus Hynden Jr.

2.Daniel Christopher Danielson (Jan.4,1859-)

Ellen Holverson* (May 13,1858-.....,1887?)

m. (Oct.24,1878) at Leland, Illinois

1.Josephine Ann Danielson m. Willard Gaylord

1.Ralph Marion Gaylord m. Lucille Irwin

2.Dolores Josephine Gaylord m. Myron Fligg

1.Michael Gaylord Fligg

3.Kathryn Elizabeth Gaylord m. Nolan Pierce

1.William Stewart Pierce

2.Martha Marie Pierce

4.Marie Louise Gaylord

2.Lottie Grace Danielson m. James Frew Keir

1.Lyle Marion Keir m. Marie Kugler

1.Mary Ann Keir

2.Dorothy Ida May Keir m. James Maitland Brand

1.James Junior Brand

3.Jean Maxine Keir

3.Edna Delby Danielson m. Emil Grunwald

4.Frederick Danielson*

5.Frances Danielson*

4.Osmund Guttormson Musland (Erland) (Meling) -
Bertha Mattiasdatter Sorvaag

7.M.Anne Osmundsatter Meling (Ann Thomason) &
Krist Kristenson Walde (Christopher Danielson) Family,continued:

2.Daniel Christopher Danielson Family continued:

Daniel Christopher Danielson remarried

Maggie _____ Woods* (.....-.....)

m. (.....) at Mt. Ayr, Iowa

6.Edna Elva Danielson m. Ray _____ Stacy

1.Eugene _____ Stacy

2.Donald _____ Stacy

7.Lloyd _____ Danielson m. Ruby _____

1.Margaret _____ Danielson

2.Virginia _____ Danielson

3.Joyce _____ Danielson

4.Lloyd Junior Danielson

5.Mary Ann Danielson

8.Erma _____ Danielson m. Norman _____ Willey

3.Bertha Ann Danielson* (Aug.3,1861-June 27,1921)

Lorenzo Hayer* (Jul.14,1853-Nov.23,1927)

m. (Mar.17,1881) at Leland, Illinois

(Lorenzo was a brother of Julia Hayer, a first cousin
of Christian Jr. and Charles Hayer, and a first cousin-
in, once removed, of Zenas, Albert, Orrin, and Cora)

1.Minnie Edith Hayer m. John Franklin Garver

1.Verna Winnifred Garver m. Raymond Horner Smith

1.John Arthur Smith

2.Barbara Garver Smith

3.Beverly Jean Smith

2.Lois Irene Garver m. Frederick E _____ Morain

3.Bertha Lillian Garver m. Walter Knokes Johnson

4?John _____ Garver*

2.Audentia May Hayer m. James Edmund Kelley*(cousin of Lee Kelley)

1.James Lorenzo Kelley m. Edna Ethel Wood

2.Robert Maxwell Kelley m. Dorthy Veleta Prall

1.Ann _____ Kelley

3.Gretchen Audentia Kelley

3.Lida Rose Hayer m. Vaughn Corless Bailey

1.Richard Valder Bailey m. Nadine Villa Price

1.Richard Dean Bailey

2.Bruce Barclay Bailey

3.Maurine Arden Bailey m. Mary Ellen Roof

1.Beverly Ann Bailey

4.Barbara Jeanette Bailey m. Howland _____ Koehler

5.June Dudley Bailey

6.John Franklin Bailey

4.Verna Grace Hayer m. Richard Leo Brackenbury

1.Infant daughter*

2.Robert Leo Brackenbury Jr.

4.Osmund Mathias Danielson*(Nov.15,1863-Nov.12,1938)

Carrie _____ Larson* (.....-Spr....,1937)

m. (Feb.19,1885) at Earlville, Illinois

1.Willis Chester Danielson* m. Tessie _____ Mosey*

1. _____ Danielson

2.Tessie Alvira Danielson*

5.Ida May Danielson (June 10,1866-)

Charles _____ Hayer* (.....-.....,1913)

m. (Feb.5,1875?) at Ottawa, Illinois

(Charles was a 1st cousin of Lorenzo Hayer, q.v.,etc.)

4.Osmund Guttormson Musland (Erland) (Meling) -

Bertha Mattiasdatter Sorvaag

7.M.Anne Osmundsatter Meling (Ann Thomason) &
Krist Kristenson Walde (Christopher Danielson) Family,continued:

6.Edward Almer Danielson* (June 21,1869-Feb.19,1944)

Anna Malinda Anderson* (May 25,1869-Dec.30,1943)

m. (Feb.6,1890) at Leland, Illinois

1.Ada Annie Danielson*

2.Aiden Andrew Danielson m. Marian Adrian Moorhead

1.Barbara Danielson m. William _____ Vogel

2.Florence Jane? Danielson

3.Marian Ann Danielson

4.Edward Elexander Danielson

3.Amah Clarissa Danielson*

4.Fayette Ernest Danielson*

5.Russel Elmer Danielson*

6.Eunice Anetta Ruth Danielson m. Oren Isaac Olson (div.)

1.Doris Jean Olson m. Raymond Patrick Yackley

1.Rita Rae Yackley

2.Michael Gene Yackley

7.David Nathaniel Danielson (Dec.14,1871-

)

Carrie Jane Weld (June 12,1870-

)

m. (Oct.19,1893) at Damway, Illinois

1.Floyd Marion Danielson m. Marie _____ Dillon

1.Dorothy June Danielson m. William Oscar McGuire

1.Barbara Anne McGuire

2.David Lee Danielson

2.Howard Russell Danielson* m. Florence _____ Hobson

3.Grace Fern Danielson m. _____ (div.)

4.Velva Janette Danielson m. Frederick S _____ Fish

1.Charles _____ Fish

8.Mary Emma Jane Danielson (Oct.31,1874-

)

Anders Knutson Gaard (Andrew K. Gaard)

(Apr.28,1863-May 4,1948)

m. (Nov.12,1897) at Aurora, Illinois

1.Clair Alvin Gaard m. Ruby _____ Smith (div.)

1.Mary Arlene Gaard m. Edward _____ Foley

1.Danny Anthony Foley

2.Joseph Smith Gaard

Clair Alvin Gaard rem. Eleanor F _____ Chase*

rem. Othel _____ Malone

2.Kenneth Charles Gaard m. Margaret _____ Short

3.Ruth Ann Gaard m. Wilber George Hartenbower

1.David Lee Hartenbower

9.Joseph Clarence Danielson (Dec.6,1877-

)

Hattie _____ Rush (Jan.1,1880-

)

m. (Mar.7,1900) at Lamoni, Iowa

1.Ruth Aileen Danielson m. James _____ Staley

1.James Lyle Staley

2.Sara Ann Staley

2.Merle Genevieve Danielson m. Raymond F? _____ Weller

1.Sam Valder Weller

8.Mattias Osmundson Meling* (.....,1837-.....,1838)

9.Mattias Thomason (Mathias Thomason)* (Jan.3,1842-May 2,1863)

1. Segve Larson Sandvik* (....., 1815-....., 1872?)
Bertha Serine Sjursdatter Hundsnes* (Jan..., 1805-Jul..., 1902)
m. (.....) in Nerstrand Sogn?, Norway

1. Anna Martha Segvesdatter Sandvik* (....., 1827-....., 1904)
Lars Iverson Bjoland (Hattestad)* (....., 1818-....., 1907)
m. (.....) at Sandvik, Nerstrand Sogn, Norway
1. Martha Larsdatter Hattestad* (.....-.....)
2. Bertha Serena Larsdatter Hattestad* (May 8, 1850-May 5, 1935)
Johannes _____ son Froland (John Farland*
(.....-Jan..., 1925?)
m. (.....) in Vats Parish, Skjold, Norway
1. Johnie _____ Farland (adopted)
3. Iver Christian Larson Hattestad* (.....-Dec. 19, 1909)
Lovise _____ Stangeland* (.....-....., 1933?)
m. (....., 1885) at Ossian, Iowa
1. Adolph _____ Hattestad*
2. Amanda _____ Hattestad m. Arthur _____ Reise
4. Sonneva _____ Larsdatter Hattestad (Apr..., 1855-)
Sakarias _____ son Torisdal* (.....-....., 1896?)
m. (....., 1880/1) in Skjold Sogn, Norway
1. Lewis _____ Torisdal*
2. Martha Torisdal*
3. Louise _____ Torisdal m. Robert S _____ Maxwell
1. Maxine _____ Maxwell
2. Robert _____ Maxwell
3. Donald _____ Maxwell
4. Barbara _____ Maxwell
4. Lars _____ Torisdal (Torsdal) m. Mary _____ Flynn
1. _____ Torsdal
2. _____ Torsdal
3. _____ Torsdal
5. Sarah _____ Torisdal*
5. Segve Larson Hattestad (Segve Iverson)* (May 9, 1858-Oct. 25, 1911)
Ellen Jacobs* (Aug. 3, 1862-Mar. 9, 1909)
m. (Dec. 29, 1880) at Leland, Illinois
1. Infant _____ *
2. Oden Levi Iverson*
3. Leonard Alfred Iverson* m. Ida Belle Peterson
4. Minne Rebecca Iverson* m. John _____ Bittner
5. Silas E _____ Iverson*
6. Ruby Emma Iverson*
7. Ollie Signer Iverson* m. Margaret _____ Pohlman (Pullman)
8. Ada Beatrice Iverson*
9. Ethel E _____ Iverson*
10. Verdell Isabell Iverson m. Howard Thorpe
1. Harold Leonard Thorpe
2. Howard Virgil Thorpe
3. Jean Ellen Thorpe
4. Carol Eileen Thorpe

1. Segve Larson Sandvik -- Bertha Serine Sjursdatter Hundsnes

1. Anna Martha Segvesdatter Sandvik &
Lars Iverson Bjoland (Hattlestad) Family, continued:

6. Laura _____ Larsdatter Hattlestad (Aug. ..., 1862-)
Andrew A _____ Richardson* (Jan. 6, 1841-Jan. 24, 1913)
m. (....., 1886) at Baker, Illinois

1. Lyman Cyrus Richardson m. Grace Elizabeth Thorpe

1. Emery Andrew Richardson

2. Hiram Owen Richardson m. Clara _____ Brown

1. Albin _____ Richardson

2. Garland _____ Richardson

3. Dale _____ Richardson

4. Infant son*

5. Raymond _____ Richardson

6. Lloyd Richardson

3. Amos Randall Richardson m. Celia _____ Farber

1. Frances _____ Richardson

2. James _____ Richardson

3. Allen _____ Richardson

4. Elsie Mae Richardson

4. Frances _____ Richardson m. Morris Gardner Cook

1. Joy Lorraine Cook

2. Morris Gardner Cook Jr.

Laura _____ Larsdatter Hattlestad remarried
Emery Loomis Thorpe* (Jan. 30, 1859-Apr. 22, 1921)
m. (Jan. 29, 1914) at Dixon, Illinois
(Emery was the father of Grace E. Thorpe)

7. Syvert Larson Hattlestad (Feb. 2, 1865-)
Marthille (Matilda) Sophia Stangeland* (.....-.....)
m. (Jan. 29, 1889 at Ossian, Iowa

1. Lars (Lewis) Hattlestad m. Gladys _____ Bogess (Bogus?)

1. Infant son*

2. Robert Lewis Hattlestad

2. Marthille (Matilda) Sophia Hattlestad m. Reuben Eastwold
(Marthille was a twin of Lars Hattlestad)

1. Ruby Wilma Eastwold m. Lloyd Clifford Start

2. Fern Adelaide Eastwold

3. Clara LeNora Hattlestad m. Arvid Elliott Lundstrom

1. David Elliott Lundstrom

4. Silas Melford Hattlestad m. Lillian Olivia Lien

1. Verdell Opal Hattlestad

2. Clifford Raymond Hattlestad

3. Donna Jean Hattlestad

4. Donald Gene Hattlestad (twin of Donna Jean)

5. Stella Louise Hattlestad m. John Helmer Prestegaard

1. Betty June Prestegaard

2. Lorraine Virginia Prestegaard

6. Ruby Luella Hattlestad*

8. Martin Laurias Larson Hattlestad* (June 24, 1868-Jul. 22, 1947)
Sophia _____ Mitchell* (Sept. 2, 1873-May 24, 1940)

m. (Oct. 26, 1898) at Pontiac, Illinois

1. Stella Lucille Hattlestad

2. Leo Mitchell Hattlestad m. Thora Aleida Drake

1. Susan _____ Hattlestad

1. Segve Larson Sandvik -- Bertha Serine Sjursdatter Hundsnes

2. Lars Segveson Sandvik* (.....-.....)

3. Osmund Segveson Sandvik (Espevik) (Sandvik)* (.....-.....)
Oline Olesdatter Lindanger* (.....-.....)
m. (.....) in Nerstrand Sogn?, Norway
(Osmund and Oline were first cousins)

1. Segve Osmundson Espevik? (.....-.....)

2. Ole Osmundson Espevik? (Sandvik)* (.....-....., 1933)
Gurine (Guri) Gudmundsdatter Bakkevik* (.....-.....)
m. (.....) at Nerstrand Church, Norway

1. Osmund Oleson Sandvik m. Serine _____sdatter Borganvik

1. Ole Johannes Sandvik

2. Judith Kjellaug Sandvik

2. Oline Olesdatter Sandvik m. Lars _____son Espevik*

1. Guri Larsdatter Espevik

2. Tore Hanson Espevik

3. Ole Larson Espevik

3. Guri Olesdatter Sandvik*

4. Signe Olesdatter Sandvik m. Bernt Hakull

1. Kristine Berntsdatter Hakull

2. Gudmund Berntson Hakull

3. Georg Berntson Hakull

4. Guri Berntsdatter Hakull

5. Bjarne Berntson Hakull

6. Solveig Berntsdatter Hakull (twin of Bjarne)

7. Anna Marie Hakull

5. Gudrun Olesdatter Sandvik m. Engel Bergedal

6. Olga Olesdatter Sandvik m. Lars Musland

1. Leif Larson Musland

2. Guri Larsdatter Musland

3. Gudmund Osmundson Espevik? (Sandvik)* (Jul. 23, 1861-Jul. 12, 1933)
Anne Laurentze Holgersdatter Bjoland (Apr. 14, 1870-)
m. (....., 1839) at Nerstrand Church, Norway

1. Osmund Gudmundson Sandvik m. _____

2. Marthe Gudmundsdatter Sandvik m. J _____ Silsas

1. Helene Silsas

2. Anna Laurentze Silsas

3. Gudmund Silsas

4. Martha Johanne Silsas

5. Hilda Marie Silsas

6. Agnes Silsas

7. Kirsten Silsas

8. Hilda Marie Silsas

3. Oline Gudmundsdatter Sandvik*

4. Hilda Gudmundsdatter Sandvik*

5. Gudmund Gudmundson Sandvik

6. Arne Gudmundson Sandvik m. Anna Kravik Anderson

1. Gudmund Arne Sandvik

2. Karen Louise Sandvik

7. Sigve Gudmundson Sandvik m. Else Velde

1. Karen Marie Sandvik

8. Holger Bjelland Sandvik*

9. Holger Bjelland Sandvik*

10. Hilda Oline Sandvik m. K _____ Tugvaldsen

1. Arid Johanne Tugvaldsen

2. Arne Gudmund Tugvaldsen

11. Sigurd Eldor Sandvik

12. Magne Johan Sandvik m. Else Torsen

1. Gudmund Johan Sandvik

2. Magne Sandvik

1. Segve Larson Sandvik -- Bertha Serine Sjursdatter Hundsnes

3. Osmund Segveson Sandvik (Espevik) (Sandvik) &
Oline Olesdatter Lindanger Family, continued:

4. Berthe Serine (Sine) Osmundsdatter Espevik? (Sandvik)
(....., 1866?-.....)

Lars Gudmundson Bakkevik (.....-)
m. (.....) at Nerstrand Church, Norway
(Lars was a brother of Gurine Bakkevik)

1. Gudmund Larson Bakkevik

2. Osmund Larson Bakkevik

3. _____ Larson Bakkevik*

4. Lars Larson Bakkevik m. Anna _____sdatter Amdal

1. Lars Georg Bakkevik

2. Marit Sofie Bakkevik

3. Gudmund Bakkevik

4. Bjarne Sigurd Bakkevik

5. Sverre Bakkevik

5. Segve Osmundson Espevik? (Sandvik)* (....., 1868-.....)

6. Seri Osmundsdatter Espevik? (Sandvik) (Jan. 24, 1871-)
Lars Holgerson Leiranger (Lindanger)* (.....-.....)
m. (Nov. 15, 1896) at Nerstrand Church, Norway

1. Holger Larson Lindanger*

2. Osmund Larson Lindanger

3. Laurits Larson Lindanger m. Martha Johanne Silsas

4. Lars Larson Lindanger*

7. Marthe Margrethe Osmundsdatter Sandvik? (.....-)
Jens _____son Topnes (.....-)

m. (.....) at Nerstrand Church, Norway

1. _____Jenson Topnes?*

8. Osmine Osmundsdatter Sandvik (.....-)

4. Seri Segvesdatter Sandvik* (.....-.....)
Bjoren Bjorenson Topnes II* (.....-.....)
m. (.....) in Nerstrand Sogn?, Norway

1. Gurine Bjorensdatter Topnes (.....-)
Bardenius _____son Hervik (.....-)
m. (.....) in Nerstrand Sogn?, Norway

1. Bjoren Bardeniuson Hervik* m. _____sdatter Hervik?
(cousin of Lars and Omina Gjerde)

2. Berthe Serine Bjorensdatter Topnes (.....-....)
Gudmund Gudmundson Landraak (.....-)
m. (.....) in Nerstrand Sogn?, Norway

1. Gudmund Gudmundson Landraak m. _____
1. _____Gudmundson Landraak
2. Sina Gudmundsdatter Landraak
2. Bjoren Gudmundson Landraak m. _____
1. _____Landraak
2. _____Landraak

3. Bjoren Bjorenson Topnes III (.....-)
4? Sofie Bjorensdatter Topnes (.....-)
_____son Klungtveit (.....-)
m. (.....) in Nerstrand Sogn?, Norway

1. Segve Larson Sandvik -- Bertha Serine Sjursdatter Hundsnes

5. Gudmund Lars Segveson Sandvik (Espevik)* (....., 1836-Jul., 1905)
Anne Oline Olesdatter Sortveit* (Sept. 4, 1850-Feb. 5, 1913)
m. (....., 1872?) in Nerstrand Sogn, Norway
(Anne Oline was a half-sister of Lars and Guri Bakkevik)

1. Berthe Serine (Sine) Larsdatter Espevik* (....., 1873-....., 1934)
Peter Mortenson Borgenvik* (.....-.....)
m. (.....) at Nerstrand Church, Norway

2. Guri Larsdatter Espevik (Sept. 24, 1875-)
Holger Holgerson Leiranger (Mjolsnes) (.....-.....)
m. (.....) at Nerstrand Church, Norway
(Holger was a brother of Lars Leiranger)

1. Laura Holgersdatter Leiranger Mjolsnes m. Nils ____ Kindingstad
1. Harold Kindingstad
2. Einar Kindingstad
3. Gerd Solveig Kindingstad

2. Anne Holgersdatter Leiranger Mjolsnes m. Geirulf ____ son Launsnes
1. Teodora Launsnes m. Jakob Vignes
2. Guttorm Launsnes

3. Hilda Holgersdatter Leiranger Mjolsnes

3. Olava Larsdatter Espevik (Sept.,-)
Osmund Surensen Sortveit (Nortveit)* (.....-.....)
m. (.....) at Nerstrand Church, Norway

1. Sverre Osmundson Nortveit
2. _____ Nortveit
3. Lars Osmundson Nortveit
4. Anne Osmundsdatter Nortveit
5. _____ Nortveit
6. _____ Nortveit
7. _____ Nortveit

4. Sigvalda Larsdatter Espevik (.....-)
Torger Knuteson Borgenvik (Espevik) (.....-)
m. (.....) at Nerstrand Church, Norway

1. Kornelius Torgerson Espevik
2. Anne Torgersdatter Espevik m. _____
1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

3. Ragnhilda Torgersdatter Espevik*

4. Lars Torgerson Espevik (Borgenvik) m. _____
1. _____ Lars _____ Borgenvik

5. Gudmund Lars Segveson Sandvik (Espevik) &
Anne Oline Olesdatter Sortveit Family, continued:

5. Gudmund Larson Espevik (Feb. 10, 1882-)
 _____ datter Vik (.....-)
 _____ m. (.....) at Nerstrand Church, Norway

1. Lars Gudmundson Espevik
2. _____ Gudmunds _____ Espevik
3. _____ Gudmunds _____ Espevik

6. Lars Andreas Larson Espevik (Sept. 14, 1883-)
 Petra Petersdatter Nortveit (Dec. 16, 1886-)
 m. (Oct. 17, 1911) at Mayville, North Dakota

1. Anna Olene Espevik
2. Palma Lillian Espevik
3. Solveig Pauline Espevik
4. Leif Elmer Espevik* m. Gwendolyn _____
 1. Paul Leon Espevik
5. Priscilla Norma Espevik m. Ray _____ Worthington
6. Leonora Pearl Espevik m. Ollie _____ Walker Jr.
7. Clifford Ogden Espevik

7.Ole Kornelius Larson Espevik*(.....,1885-.....,1887/8)

8. Kaia Oline Larsdatter Espevik (Olene Espevik)*
 (Apr. 11, 1888-Aug. 12, 1943)
 Andreas Oskarson Leiranger (Andrew Leranger)
 (Nov. 5, 1884-)
 m. (Feb. 24, 1911) at Westland Church, Norway, Illinois
 1. Arthur Orven Leranger
 2. Orville Marshall Leranger*

1. Segve Larson Sandvik -- Bertha Serine Sjursdatter Hundsnes

6. Karen Serine Segvesdatter Sandvik* (.....-.....)
Segve Segveson Hervik (Tysvaer)* (.....-....., 1866)
m. (.....) at, Norway

1. Sine Segvesdatter Tysvaer* (.....-.....)
Peder Torbjornson Klovning (Tysvaer) (Klovaa)
(.....-.....)
m. (....., 1894) in (Tysvaer Sogn?, Norway)

1. _____ Pedersdatter Tysvaer? (adopted)
2. _____ Pedersdatter Tysvaer? (adopted)

2? Segve Segveson Tysvaer (.....-.....)
_____ sdatte (.....-.....)
m. (.....) at, Norway

1. _____ Segveson Tysvaer
2. _____ Segvesdatter Tysvaer

3? Ludvig Segveson Tysvaer (.....-.....)

4? Sigvald Segveson Tysvaer* (.....-.....)
Dorthea Danielsdatter Apeland* (.....-.....)
m. (.....) at, Norway

1. Sigur Sigvaldson Tysvaer m. _____ (sep.)
2. Karen Sigvaldsdatter Tysvaer m. _____ (sep.)
3. _____ Sigvaldson Tysvaer
- 4? _____ Sigvaldsdatter Tysvaer*

5. Kristofa Segvesdatter Tysvaer (.....-.....)
Lars Sjurson Gjerde* (.....-.....)
m. (.....) in Tysvaer Sogn?, Norway
(Lars and Kristofa were fourth cousins)

1. Sjur Larson Gjerde? m. _____
2. Segve Larson Gjerde?
3. Ludolph Larson Gjerde?

6. Stenert Segveson Tysvaer (Klovaa) (Gjerde) (.....-.....)
Omine Sjursdatter Gjerde (.....-.....)
m. (.....) in Tysvaer Sogn?, Norway
(Omine was a sister of Lars, and Stenert's 4th cousin)

1. Solveig Stenertsdatter Klovaa? m. _____
2. _____ Stenertsdatter Klovaa? m. _____
3. _____ Stenerts _____ Gjerde?
- 4?

7. Karl Segveson Tysvaer (Klovaa) (Klovning)* (.....-.....)

8. Gunvald Segveson Tysvaer (.....-.....)
_____ (.....-.....)
m. (.....) at, U.S.A.

9. Berger Segveson Tysvaer (.....-.....)
Anne Svendsdatter Ginsmervik (.....-.....)
m. (.....) in Tysvaer Sogn?, Norway

1.Segve Larson Sandvik -- Bertha Serine Sjursdatter Hundsnes

7.Syvert Segveson Sandvik (Klovning-Løning) (Sandvik) Landraak)*
(Feb.2,1842-May 10,1930)
Marthe Helene Johannesdatter Lindanger* (June?..,1842-Dec.11,1911)
m. (.....,1866?) at Skjold Church, Norway
(Syvert and Marthe Helene were first cousins)

- 1.Berthe Serine (Sine) Syvertdatter Sandvik
(Apr.14,1868-)
Peder Bjornson Landraak (.....,1868-)
m. (.....,1893) at Nerstrand Church, Norway
- 1.Bjorn Pederson Landraak m. Inga _____sdatter _____
1.Peder Bjornson Landraak
2._____ Bjorns_____ Landraak
3._____ Bjorns_____ Landraak
4._____ Bjorns_____ Landraak
5._____ Bjorns_____ Landraak
6._____ Bjorns_____ Landraak
- 2.Syvert Pederson Landraak (_____) m. _____
1._____ Syverts_____
- 3.Inga Pedersdatter Landraak m. _____
1._____
2._____
- 4.Marta Pedersdatter Landraak m. _____ Lee*
1._____ Lee
- 5.Petra Pedersdatter Landraak

1. Segve Larson Sandvik -- Bertha Serine Sjursdatter Hundsnes

7. Syvert Segveson Sandvik (Klovning-Lønning) (Sandvik) (Landraak) &
Marthe Helene Johannesdatter Lindanger Family, continued:

2. Seri Syvertsdatter Sandvik* (Feb. 1, 1870-Mch. 23, 1927)
Halvor H _____ son Holien* (June 24, 1860-.....)
m. (....., 1891?) at Ossian?, Iowa

1. Ida Idella Holien m. Adolph _____ Gullickson
 1. Sadie Idella Gullickson m. Elmer _____ Hines
 2. Glen _____ Gullickson
 3. Walter Donald Gullickson
 4. Norman Ernest Gullickson
 5. Howard _____ Gullickson
 6. Dorothy _____ Gullickson
2. Seval John Holien
3. Hilda Marie Holien m. Arve _____ Johnson
 1. Margaret Sylvia Johnson
 2. Harold Bernard Johnson
 3. Arlene Mae Johnson
4. Hiller George Holien m. Elsie _____ Wiedow
 1. Vivian Mae Holien
 2. Irene Shirley Holien
 3. Hiller Arthur Holien Jr.
 4. Ione Phyllis Holien
 5. Robert Earl Holien
5. Martha Helena Severina Holien m. William _____ Holzer
 1. Lorraine Adelaide Holzer
 2. Norma Jean Holzer
 3. Audrey Mae Holzer
6. Rudolph Orlando Holien*
7. Orlando Rudolph Holien
8. Marit (Mary) Beatrice Holien m. Frank _____ Lansing
 1. Victor Francis Lansing
 2. Dorothy Ann Lansing
9. Esther Lenora Holien m. Edward _____ Schroeder
10. Melvin Adolph Holien m. Clara _____ Bohn
 1. Joan Harriet Holien
 2. David Alden Holien
11. Louise Cora Holien m. Lloyd _____ Oehler*
 1. Nile Dean Oehler
 2. Duane Dale Oehler
 3. Wayne Paul Oehler (twin of Duane Dale)

Louise Cora Holien rem. Mac _____ Thompson
12. Henry Selmer Holien
13. Gladys Evelyn Holien* m. Roy Edward Faber
 1. Roy Edward Faber Jr.
 2. Bruce Allen Faber
 3. Beverly Ann Faber (twin of Bruce Allen)
14. Elsie Rebecca Holien m. Richard _____ Gordon
 1. Laverne Richard Gordon

3. Segve Syvertson Sandvik (Sig Sivertsen) (Feb. 2, 1872-)
Karen Adolphsdatter Sandvik (Karen Carlson) (Dec. 31, 1876-)
m. (Nov. 4, 1912) at Chicago, Illinois

1. Bernice Marie Sivertsen
2. Sigred (Sigrid) Caroline Sivertsen m. Robert Lloyd Malmberg
 1. Roberta _____ Malmberg

1.Segve Larson Sandvik -- Bertha Serine Sjursdatter Hundsnes

7.Syvert Segveson Sandvik (Klovning-Løning) (Sandvik) (Landraak) &
Marthe Helene Johannesdatter Lindanger Family, continued:

4.Stine Gurine Syvertdatter Klovning-Løning (Sandvik)
(Feb.20,1874-)
Olaf Gabrielson (Oct.26,1877-)
m. (May 26,1900) at Pederskirke, Stavanger, Norway

- 1.Gustav Otto Gabrielson*
- 2.Sverdrup Martin Gabrielson*
- 3.Olga Serine Gabrielson m. Lars Wermundsen
 - 1.Else Grete Wermundsen
 - 2.Borge Wermundsen
- 4.Marta Helene Gabrielson m. Thorleif Berg
 - 1.Marit Bjug Berg
- 5.Dagfune Oscar Gabrielson*
- 6.Sigurd _____ Gabrielson m. Liv Eide
 - 1.Odd Eide
- 7.Buth _____ Gabrielson m. Arthur Thu
- 8.Borghild Gabrielson* (twin of Buth)
- 9.Berge Olav Gabrielson

5.Johannesine Syvertdatter Klovning-Løning (Sandvik) (Landraak)
(June 21,1876-)
_____ Sandvik (.....-)
m. (.....) at

- 1.Segve Sandvik*
- 2.Seri Josefine Sandvik m. Lars _____ son Klovning (Jorsvaadd)
 1. _____ Lars _____ Jorsvaadd?*
 2. _____ Lars _____ Jorsvaadd?*
 3. _____ Lars _____ Jorsvaadd?
 4. _____ Lars _____ Jorsvaadd? (twin of No.3)

1. Segve Larson Sandvik -- Bertha Serine Sjursdatter Hundsnes

7. Syvert Segveson Sandvik (Klovning-Løning) (Sandvik) (Landraak) &
Marthe Helene Johannesdatter Lindanger Family, continued:

6. Johannes Syvertson Sandvik?* (Aug. 29?, 1878-Oct. ..., 1942)
Sofie Kristofersdatter Kallecod(....., 1876-)
m. (....., 1901) at Nerstrand Church, Norway

1. Syvert Johanneson Sandvik? m. _____
 1. _____
2. Sigrid Johannesdatter Sandvik? m. _____
3. Marget Johannesdatter Sandvik? m. _____
4. Kristine Johannesdatter Sandvik? m. _____
5. Johan Johanneson Sandvik? m. _____
6. Inga? Johannesdatter Sandvik? _____

7. Lars Syvertson Sandvik* (Feb. 20, 1881-Mch. 22, 1938)

8. Marthe Margrethe Severine Syvertsdatter Sandvik (Margaret Sandvik)
(Jul. 6, 1883-)
Albert Dahl (Nov. 11, 1883-)
m. (Oct. 2, 1913) at Mitchell, South Dakota

1. Palmer Melvin Dahl
2. Martha Helene Dahl m. Frank William Eller
 1. Arlene Marie Eller
 2. Ronald Albert Eller
3. Selmar Henry Dahl
4. Mae Sylvia Dahl m. Clarence _____ Anderson
 1. Imogene Bethel Anderson
5. Arthur Lewis Dahl
6. Bethel Jeannette Dahl
7. Kermit Jeannette Dahl*
8. Kermit Earl Dahl

9. Olava Osmunda Syvertsdatter Sandvik (May 22, 1886-)
Osten Holgerson Hetland* (Aug. ..., 1864-Feb. ..., 1938)
m. (Apr. 1, 1909) at Ossian, Iowa

1. Ida Marie Hetland m. Glen _____ Bagley
2. Syvert Henry Hetland*
3. Selma Henrietta Hetland m. Roscoe _____ Orendorf
 1. Phyllis _____ Orendorf
4. Arthur Orlando Hetland m. _____
5. Milton Hetland
6. Earl Hetland
7. Ione Hetland

1. Segve Larson Sandvik -- Bertha Serine Sjursdatter Hundsnes

8. Marthe Margrethe (Mette) Segvesdatter Sandvik*

(May 26, 1843-Dec. 22, 1895)

Lars Bergeson Amdal (Lars Amdahl)* (Mch. 6, 1836-May 1, 1912)

m. (Oct. 9, 1867) at Sandvik, Nerstrand Sogn, Norway

1. Segve Larson Amdal (Sigve Amdahl)* (June 14, 1868-Oct. 7, 1927)

Anna Severina Valvatne (.....-)

m. (Mch. 13, 1897) at Ossian, Iowa

1. Manfred _____ Amdal m. _____
 1. _____ Amdal
 2. _____ Amdal
 3. _____ Amdal
 4. _____ Amdal
2. Judith _____ Amdal m. Clarence _____ Aschim
 1. Clarence Junior Aschim
 2. Shirley Ann Aschim
3. Selma _____ Amdal m. Clarence _____ Ask
 1. Norma Jean Ask
 2. Marlin _____ Ask
 3. Curtis _____ Ask
 4. _____ Ask
 5. _____ Ask
 6. _____ Ask
4. Esther _____ Amdal m. Carl _____ White
 1. _____ White
 2. _____ White
 3. _____ White
 4. _____ White
 5. _____ White
 6. _____ White

2. Berge Larson Amdal (Berge Amdahl) (June 9, 1870-)

Margrethe (Margaret) Torske (Jul. 3, 1876-)

m. (Oct. 5, 1898) in Military Twp., Winnishiek Co., Iowa

1. John Junerius Amdahl m. Mae _____ Viske
 1. Darlene Virginia Amdahl
 2. Verna Kathleen Amdahl
 3. Byrdelle John Ordean Amdahl
2. Metta Lenorah (Mayme) Amdahl m. Leonard Cornell Osmundson
 1. Marcella Lorraine Osmundson
 2. Loren Bernell Osmundson
 3. Sylvia Ilene Osmundson
3. Leo Arthur Amdahl m. Laura Margaret? Drier
 1. Douglas Leo Amdahl
 2. Barbara Lou Amdahl
4. Glen Julien Amdahl*

1. Segve Larson Sandvik -- Bertha⁷³ Serine Sjurdsatter Hundsnes

8. Marthe Margrethe (Mette) Segvesdatter Sandvik &
Lars Bergeson Amdal Family, continued:

3. Marthe _____ Larsdatter Amdahl (Martha Amdahl) (Sept. 22, 1872-

Thorvald _____ Watland (....., 1871-)
m. (Jul. 3, 1893) near Ossian, Iowa

1. Julia Teoline (Tillie) Watland m. Benjamin _____ Shearer

1. Warren Merlin Shearer

2. Arvilla _____ Shearer m. Louis _____ Garske

1. Avis Adair Garske

3. Iva _____ Shearer m. Vernon _____ Pearson

1. Robert _____ Pearson

2. Lewis Milford Watland m. Selma _____ Selvog

1. Clarence _____ Watland

2. Cora _____ Watland m. Sy _____ Tomazek

Lewis Milford Watland rem. _____

3. Louis Neal Watland

3. Mattie Talette Watland m. Francis _____ Peterson

1. Alton _____ Peterson

2. Marlys _____ Peterson

3. Valerie _____ Peterson

4. Emma Bertine Watland m. Jerry _____ Parsons

1. Jerry Kay Parsons m. Evelyn _____ Ostertrus

1. Jerry Dale Parsons

5. Johan Thorvald Watland (John Watland) m. Mabel _____ Tufte

1. John Mervin Watland

2. Arline Eline Watland

3. James _____ Watland

4. Carol _____ Watland

6. James Watland m. Ruth _____ Pressend

1. Beverly Eline Watland

2. James _____ Watland

3. Rechie _____ Watland

4. Martha Ann Watland

7. Clara Amanda Watland m. James _____ Hendrie

1. James _____ Hendrie

2. John _____ Hendrie

3. Ronald _____ Hendrie

4. Roberta Jean Hendrie

8. Walter Watland

4. Berthe Serine Larsdatter Amdal (Bertha Serena Amdahl)
(Dec. 27, 1874-

John J _____ Rendahl (June 18, 1877-)
m. (Feb. 12, 1902) at Ostrander, Minnesota

1. Jurald Leo Rendahl m. Myrtle _____ Collins

1. John Dennis Rendahl

2. Roy Collins Rendahl

3. Janet Myrtle Rendahl

2. May Beatrice Rendahl

3. Ruby Luella Rendahl m. C _____ Theodore Rye

4. Lester Julian Rendahl m. _____

5. Allan Eugene Fillmore Rendahl*

1. Segve Larson Sandvik -- Bertha Serine Sjursdatter Sandvik

8. Marthe Margrethe (Mette) Segvesdatter Sandvik &
Lars Bergeson Amdal Family continued:

5. Børge Severin Larson Amdal (Bert Amdahl) (Oct. 7, 1877-)
Florence _____ Adams (.....-)
m. (....., 1909) at Fillmore, North Dakota

1. Lucile _____ Amdahl
2. Muriel K _____ Amdahl
3. Ellen _____ Amdahl

6. Lars Mandius Larson Amdal* (Dec. 23, 1879-.....)
Ella _____ Morgan (.....-)
m. (Feb. 2, 1904) at Mabel, Minnesota

7. Mette Margrethe Larsdatter Amdal (Apr. 25, 1882-)
Olaf A _____ Sterry (.....-)
m. (....., 1908) at Fillmore, North Dakota

1. Norman _____ Sterry m. _____
2. Alton _____ Sterry m. _____
3. Bernice _____ Sterry m. _____
4. Delos _____ Sterry
5. Marjory _____ Sterry

8. Laura Josefine Larsdatter Amdal (June 26, 1885-)
Clyde _____ Ridenour (.....-)
m. (July 2, 1903) at Fillmore, North Dakota

1. Gladys Almeda Ridenour
2. Letha Anunda Ridenour

9. Kaia Lovise Larsdatter Amdal (Carrie Amdal)
(Aug. 24, 1887-)
Louris Severin Rendahl (Louis Rendahl) (Apr. 16, 1884-)
m. (Feb. 22, 1914) near Ossian, Iowa

1. Raymond Joel Rendahl
2. Leo Milton Rendahl m. Eulah Monica Highum
3. Walter Eugene Rendahl
4. Vernon Curtis Rendahl
5. Arlene May Rendahl

9? _____ Segvesdatter Sandvik* (.....-.....)

2.Seri Larsdatter Sandvik* (.....-.....)
Ole _____son Lindanger* (.....-.....)
m. (.....) in Nerstrand Sogn?, Norway

1.Gudmund Oleson Lindanger* (.....-.....)

2.Oline Olesdatter Lindanger* (.....-.....)
Osmund Segveson Sandvik (Espevik) (Sandvik)* (.....-.....)
m. (.....) in Nerstrand Sogn?, Norway
(Osmund and Oline were first cousins)

1.Segve Osmundson Espevik* (.....-.....)

2.Ole Osmundson Espevik? (Sandvik)* (.....-.....,1933)
Gurine (Guri) Gudmundsdatter Bakkevik* (.....-.....)
m. (.....) at Nerstrand Church, Norway

1.Osmund Oleson Sandvik m. Serine _____sdatter Borganvik

1.Ole Johannes Sandvik

2.Judith Kjellaug Sandvik

2.Oline Olesdatter Sandvik m. Lars _____son Espevik*

1.Guri Larsdatter Espevik

2.Tore Larson Espevik

3.Ole Larson Espevik

3.Guri Olesdatter Sandvik*

4.Signe Olesdatter Sandvik m. Bernt Hakull

1.Kristine Berntsdatter Hakull

2.Gudmund Berntson Hakull

3.Georg Berntson Hakull

4.Guri Berntsdatter Hakull

5.Bjarne Berntson Hakull

6.Solveig Berntsdatter Hakull (twin of Bjarne)

7.Anna Marie Berntsdatter Hakull

5.Gudrun Olesdatter Sandvik m. Engel Bergedal

6.Olga Olesdatter Sandvik m. Lars Musland

1.Leif Larson Musland

2.Guri Lar sdatter Musland

2. Seri Larsdatter Sandvik -- Ole _____ son Lindanger

2. Oline Olesdatter Lindanger &
Osmund Segveson Sandvik (Espevik) (Sandvik) Family, continued:

3. Gudmund Osmundson Espevik? (Sandvik)* (Jul. 23, 1861-Jul. 12, 1933)
Anne Laurentze Holgersdatter Bjoland (Apr. 14, 1870-)
m. (....., 1889) at Nerstrand Church, Norway

1. Osmund Gudmundson Sandvik m. _____

2. Marthe Gudmundsdatter Sandvik m. J. _____ Silsas

1. Helene Silsas

2. Anna Laurentze Silsas

3. Gudmund Silsas

4. Martha Johanne Silsas

5. Hilda Marie Silsas

6. Agnes Silsas

7. Kirsten Silsas

8. Hilda Marie Silsas

3. Oline Gudmundsdatter Sandvik*

4. Hilda Gudmundsdatter Sandvik*

5. Gudmund Gudmundson Sandvik

6. Arne Gudmundson Sandvik m. Anna Kravik Anderson

1. Gudmund Arne Sandvik

2. Karen Louise Sandvik

7. Sigve Gudmundson Sandvik m. Else Velde

1. Karen Marie Sandvik

8. Holger Bjelland Sandvik*

9. Holger Bjelland Sandvik*

10. Hilda Oline Sandvik m. K. _____ Tugvaldsen

1. Arid Johanne Tugvaldsen

2. Arne Gudmund Tugvaldsen

11. Sigurd Eldor Sandvik

12. Magne Johan Sandvik m. Else Torsen

1. Gudmund Johan Sandvik

2. Magne Sandvik

4. Berthe Serine(Sine) Osmundsdr Espevik?(Sandvik)(....., 1866?-....)

Lars Gudmundson Bakkevik (.....-.....)

m. (.....) at Nerstrand Church, Norway

(Lars was a brother of Gurine Bakkevik)

1. Gudmund Larson Bakkevik

2. Osmund Larson Bakkevik

3. _____ Larson Bakkevik*

4. Lars Larson Bakkevik m. Anna _____sdatter Amdal

1. Lars Georg Bakkevik

2. Marit Sofie Bakkevik

3. Gudmund Bakkevik

4. Bjarne Sigurd Bakkevik

5. Sverre Bakkevik

5. Segve Osmundson Espevik? (Sandvik)* (....., 1868-.....)

6. Seri Osmundsdr Espevik? (Sandvik) (Jan. 24, 1871-.....)

Lars Holgerson Leiranger (Lindanger)* (.....-.....)

m. (Nov. 15, 1896) at Nerstrand Church, Norway

1. Holger Larson Lindanger*

2. Osmund Larson Lindanger

3. Laurits Larson Lindanger m. Martha Johanne Silsas

4. Lars Larson Lindanger*

7. Marthe Margrethe Osmundsdr Sandvik?(.....-)

Jens _____son Topnes (.....-)

m. (.....) at Nerstrand Church, Norway

1. _____Jenson Topnes?*

8. Osmine Osmundsdr Sandvik (.....-)

3.Seri Larsdatter Sandvik* remarried

Johannes _____ son Lindanger* (.....-.....)
m. (.....) in Nerstrand Sogn?, Norway
(Johannes was a brother of Ole Lindanger)

3.Maren Karine Johannesdatter Lindanger*(.....-.....)

Nels Johanneson Yrke* (.....-.....)
m. (.....) at Skjold Church, Norway

1.Johannes Nelson Yrke (Johannes Orke)* (Mch.23,1869-May 1,1941)

Annette _____ Englesen (.....,1878-)
m. (May 10,1908) near LeRoy, Minnesota

1.Norris Englesen Orke m. Dorothy _____ Estlick

1.Mary Annette Orke

2. _____ Orke

2.Selma Annette Orke

3.Florence Annette Orke m. Gerhard _____ Luecht

2.Johan Nelson Yrke (John Orke) (Jan.22,1871-)

Amanda Loraine Jurigina Asseusdatter Bergeland
(Oct.7,1884-)

m. (June 10,1908) near Calmar, Iowa

(John and Amanda are first cousins)

1.Norman Arthur Orke m. _____

1. _____ Orke

2.Melvin Selmer Orke

3.Gudmund Nelson Yrke (.....,1873-)

Seri Eriksdatter Lindanger (.....-)

m. (.....) at Skjold Church, Norway

(Gudmund and Seri are first cousins)

1.Nels Gudmundson Yrke

2.Erik Gudmundson Yrke unm.

3.Gudmund Gudmundson Yrke

4.Sena Gudmundsdatter Yrke m. _____

5.Maren? Gudmundsdatter Yrke

6. _____ Gudmunds _____ Yrke

7. _____ Gudmunds _____ Yrke

8. _____ Gudmunds _____ Yrke

9. _____ Gudmunds _____ Yrke

4.Andreas Nelson Yrke (Andrew N.Orke) (.....,1875-)

Marion _____ Aakerstom (.....-)

m. (.....,1912) at Portland?, Oregon

5.Seri Nelsdatter Yrke (.....,1877-)

6.Lauritz Nelson Yrke (Lindanger) (.....,1879-)

Karine Hendriksdatter Strøm (.....-)

m. (.....) in Skjold Sogn?, Norway

1. _____ Lauritz _____ Lindanger?*

2. _____ Lauritz _____ Lindanger?*

7.Ole Nelson Yrke (Ole Orke) (.....-)

2.Seri Larsdatter Sandvik -- Johannes _____son Lindanger

4.Lars Johanneson Lindanger* (.....,1836?-.....,1901?)
Anna Marie (Martha) Johannesdatter Yrke* (Mch.25,1847-Oct.5,1939)
m. (.....,1866?) at Skjold Church, Norway
(Anna Marie was a sister of Nels Yrke)

1.Johannes Larson Lindanger* (.....-.....)

2.Seri (Sigrid) Larsdatter Lindanger* (Apr.1,1869-.....)
Kristen Holgerson Osteinstad* (.....-.....)
m. (.....) at Skjold Church, Norway

1.Hilman Holgerson (_____) m. _____
1. _____
2. _____
3? _____

2.Karsten Holgerson

3.Lars Holgerson*

4.Lars Holgerson*

5.Marie Holgerson (twin of Lars) m. Sigurd Erikson Sagen

1. _____ Sigurds _____ Sagen

2. _____ Sigurds _____ Sagen

3. _____ Sigurds _____ Sagen

6.Bjarne Holgerson? Lindanger m. _____

1?Sigrid Bjarnesdatter Lindanger

2. _____ Bjarnes _____ Lindanger

3. _____ Bjarnes _____ Lindanger

3.Anna Larsdatter Lindanger (.....,1871?-..)
Jakob Jakobson Svenelid (.....-)
m. (.....) at Skjold Church, Norway

1.Lars Jakobson Svenelid m. _____

1.Lars _____

2.Emelie Jakobsdatter Svenelid

3.Jakob Jakobson Svenelid (Jack Svenelid) m. Elsie _____

1.Robert _____ Svenelid

4.Marie Jakobsdatter Svenelid

5.Agnes Jakobsdatter Svenelid*

6.Agnes Jakobsdatter Svenelid m. Thorwald _____ Kyvik

7.Johannes (John) Jakobson Svenelid m. _____*

1. _____ Svenelid

8.Torbjorn Jakobson Svenelid (Tom Svenelid)(twin of Johannes)

m. _____

1. _____ Svenelid

9.Jenny Jakobsdatter Svenelid m. Erik _____

1. _____

10.Lillie Jakobsdatter Svenelid

11.Magne Jakobson Svenelid m. Alma _____

1. _____ Svenelid

2. _____ Svenelid

12.Arne Jakobson Svenelid*

2. Seri Larsdatter Sandvik -- Johannes son Lindanger

4. Lars Johanneson Lindanger &
Anna Marie (Martha) Johannesdatter Yrke Family, continued:

4. Anna Gurine Larsdatter Lindanger (....., 1873?-)
Peder Tønnison Soiland (.....-) (div.)
m. (.....) at Stavanger, Norway

1. Thoralf (Tom?) Pederson Soiland
2. Peder Pederson Soiland*
3. Marie Pedersdatter Soiland
4. Lillie Pedersdatter Soiland

5. Johannes Larson Lindanger (Mch. 18, 1878-)

6. Marthe Larsdatter Lindanger (Martha Lindanger)
(Apr. 9, 1880-)

7. Laura Josefine Larsdatter Lindanger (Aug. 20, 1882-)
Peder Aadson Hagen (.....-)
m. (.....) at Stavanger, Norway

1. Bergit Pedersdatter Hagen m. Ole Helgeson
2. Marie Pedersdatter Hagen
3. Liddy Pedersdatter Hagen
4. Aad Pederson Hagen
5. _____ Peders _____ Hagen
6. Judith Pedersdatter Hagen

8. Lena Marie Larsdatter Lindanger (Mch. 18, 1884-)
Halvor _____ son Urrang (.....-)
m. (.....) at Haugesund, Norway

1. Lars Halvorson Urrang
2. Gudrun Halvorsdatter Urrang
3. Halvor Halvorson Urrang
4. ? _____ Halvors _____ Urrang*
5. Bjarne Halvorson Urrang
6. Lena Marie Halvorsdatter Urrang m. _____
7. Harald Halvorson Urrang

9. Karoline Margrethe Larsdatter Lindanger (June 5, 1886-)
Severin _____ son Hetland (.....-)
m. (.....) at Stavanger, Norway

1. Sigrun Severinsdatter Hetland m. Lars _____ son Molstre
2. Lars Severinson Hetland m. _____
 1. Svein Larson Hetland?

5. Marthe Helene Johannesdatter Lindanger* (June?.., 1842-Dec. 11, 1911)
 Syvert Segveson Sandvik (Klovning-Lønning) (Sandvik)*
 (Feb. 2, 1842-May 10, 1930)
 m. (....., 1866?) at Skjold Church, Norway
 (Marthe and Syvert were first cousins)

1. Berthe Sérine (Sine) Syvertsdatter Sandvik (Apr. 14, 1868-
Peder Bjornson Landraak (....., 1868-)
m. (....., 1893) at Nerstrand Church, Norway

1. Bjorn Pederson Landraak m. Inga sdatter

1. Peder Bjornson Landraak

2. Bjorns Landraak

3. Bjorns Landraak

4. Bjorns Landraak

5. Bjorns Landraak

6. Bjorns Landraak

2. Syvert Pederson Landraak () m. _____

1. Syverts

3. Inga Pedersdatter Landraak m.

1. _____

2.

4. Marta Pedersdatter Landraak m. Lee*

1. Lee

5. Petra Pedersdatter Landraak

2.Seri Larsdatter Sandvik -- Johannes _____son Lindanger

5.Marthe Helene Johannesdatter Lindanger &
Syvert Segveson Sandvik(Klovning-Lønning)(Sandvik) Family, continued:

2.Seri Syvertdatter Sandvik* (Feb.1,1870-Mch.23,1927)
Halvor H _____son Holien* (June 24,1860-.....)
m. (.....,1891?) at Ossian?, Iowa

- 1.Ida Idella Holien m. Adolph _____ Gullickson
 - 1.Sadie Idella Gullickson m. Elmer _____ Hines
 - 2.Glen _____ Gullickson
 - 3.Walter Donald Gullickson
 - 4.Norman Ernest Gullickson
 - 5.Howard _____ Gullickson
 - 6.Dorothy _____ Gullickson
- 2.Seval John Holien
- 3.Hilda Marie Holien m. Arve _____ Johnson
 - 1.Margaret Sylvia Johnson
 - 2.Harold Bernard Johnson
 - 3.Arlene Mae Johnson
- 4.Hiller George Holien m. Elsie _____ Wiedow
 - 1.Vivian Mae Holien
 - 2.Irene Shirley Holien
 - 3.Hiller Arthur Holien Jr.
 - 4.Ione Phyllis Holien
 - 5.Robert Earl Holien
- 5.Martha Helena Severina Holien m. William _____ Holzer
 - 1.Lorraine Adelaide Holzer
 - 2.Norma Jean Holzer
 - 3.Audrey Mae Holzer
- 6.Rudolph Orlando Holien*
- 7.Orlando Rudolph Holien
- 8.Marit (Mary) Beatrice Holien m. Frank _____ Lansing
 - 1.Victor Francis Lansing
 - 2.Dorothy Ann Lansing
- 9.Esther Lenora Holien m. Edward _____ Schroeder
- 10.Melvin Adolph Holien m. Clara _____ Bohn
 - 1.Jean Harriet Holien
 - 2.David Alden Holien
- 11.Louise Cora Holien m. Lloyd _____ Oehler*
 - 1.Nile Dean Oehler
 - 2.Duane Dale Oehler
 - 3.Wayne Paul Oehler (twin of Duane Dale)

Louise Cora Holien rem. Mac _____ Thompson
- 12.Henry Selmer Holien
- 13.Gladys Evelyn Holien* m. Roy Edward Faber
 - 1.Roy Edward Faber Jr.
 - 2.Bruce Allen Faber
 - 3.Beverly Ann Faber (twin of Bruce Allen)
- 14.Elsie Rebecca Holien m. Richard _____ Gordon
 - 1.Laverne Richard Gordon

2.Seri Larsdatter Sandvik -- Johannes _____son Lindanger

5.Marthe Helene Johannesdatter Lindanger &
Syvert Segveson Sandvik(Klovning-Løning)(Sandvik)Family,continued:

3.Segve Syvertson Sandvik (Sig Sivertson) (Feb.2,1872-)
Karen Adolphsdatter Sandvik (Karen Carlson)
(Dec.31,1876-)
m. (Nov.4,1912) at Chicago, Illinois

1.Bernice Marie Sivertsen
2.Sigred (Sigrid) Caroline Sivertsen m. Robert Lloyd Malmberg
1.Roberta _____ Malmberg

4.Stine Gurine Syvertsdatter Klovning-Løning (Sandvik)
(Feb.20,1874-)
Olaf Gabrielson (Oct.26,1877-)
m. (May 26,1900) at Pederskirke, Stavanger, Norway

1.Gustav Otto Gabrielson*
2.Sverdrup Martin Gabrielson*
3.Olga Serine Gabrielson m. Lars _____ Wermundsen
1.Else Grete Wermundsen
2.Borge Wermundsen
4.Marta Helene Gabrielson m. Thorleif _____ Berg
1.Marit Bjug Berg
5.Dragfune Oscar Gabrielson*
6.Sigurd _____ Gabrielson m. Liv Eide
1.Odd Eide
7.Buth _____ Gabrielson m. Arthur Thu
8.Borghild Gabrielson* (twin of Buth)
9.Berge Olav Gabrielson*

5.Johannesine Syvertsdatter Klovning-Løning (Sandvik) (Landraak)
(June 21,1876-)

m.(_____)

1.Segve Sandvik*
2.Seri Josefine Sandvik m. Lars _____son Klovning (Jorsvaadd)
1. _____ Lars _____ Jorsvaadd?*
2. _____ Lars _____ Jorsvaadd?*
3. _____ Lars _____ Jorsvaadd?
4. _____ Lars _____ Jorsvaadd? (twin of No.3)

2. Seri Larsdatter Sandvik -- Johannes _____ son Lindanger

5. Marthe Helene Johannesdatter Lindanger & Syvert Segveson Sandvik
(Klovning-Løning) (Sandvik) (Landraak) Family, continued:

6. Johannes Syvertson Sandvik?* (Aug. 29?, 1878-Oct. ..., 1942)

Sofie Kristofersdatter Kallecod (....., 1876-

m. (....., 1901) at Nerstrand Church, Norway

1. Syvert Johanneson Sandvik? m. _____

1. _____

2. Sigrid Johannesdatter Sandvik? m. _____

3. Marget Johannesdatter Sandvik? m. _____

4. Kristine Johannesdatter Sandvik? m. _____

5. Johan Johanneson Sandvik? m. _____

6. Inga? Johannesdatter Sandvik? _____

7. Lars Syvertson Sandvik* (Feb. 20, 1881-Mch. 22, 1938)

8. Marthe Margrethe Severine Syvertsatter Sandvik

(Margaret Sandvik) (Jul. 6, 1883-

Albert Dahl (Nov. 11, 1883-

m. (Oct. 2, 1913) at Mitchell, South Dakota

1. Palmer Melvin Dahl

2. Martha Helene Dahl m. Frank William Eller

1. Arlene Marie Eller

2. Ronald Albert Eller

3. Selmer Henry Dahl

4. Mae Sylvia Dahl m. Clarence _____ Anderson

1. Imogene Bethel Anderson

5. Arthur Lewis Dahl

6. Bethel Jeannette Dahl

7. Kermit Milton Dahl*

8. Kermit Earl Dahl

9. Olava Osmunda Syvertsatter Sandvik (May 22, 1886-

Osten Holgerson Hetland* (Aug. ..., 1864-Feb. ..., 1938)

m. (Apr. 1, 1909) at Ossian, Iowa

1. Ida Marie Hetland m. Glen _____ Bagley

2. Syvert Henry Hetland*

3. Selma Henrietta Hetland m. Roscoe _____ Orendorf

1. Phyllis _____ Orendorf

4. Arthur Orlando Hetland m. _____

5. Milton _____ Hetland

6. Earl _____ Hetland

7. Ione _____ Hetland

2.Seri Larsdatter Sandvik -- Johannes _____son Lindanger

6.Serine Johannesdatter Lindanger* (.....,1845?-.....)
 Erik Erikson Lindanger II* (.....-.....)
 m. (.....) in Skjold Sogn?, Norway

1.Erik Erikson Lindanger III (.....-.....) unm.?)
 2.Seri Eriksdatter Lindanger (.....-.....))
 Gudmund Nelson Yrke (.....,1873-.....)
 m. (.....) at Skjold Church, Norway
 (Seri and Gudmund are first cousins)

1.Nels Gudmundson Yrke
 2.Erik Gudmundson Yrke unm.
 3.Gudmund Gudmundson Yrke
 4.Sena Gudmundsdatter Yrke m. _____
 5.Maren? Gudmundsdatter Yrke
 6._____ Gudmunds_____ Yrke
 7._____ Gudmunds_____ Yrke
 8._____ Gudmunds_____ Yrke
 9._____ Gudmunds_____ Yrke

3.Johannes Erikson Lindanger (.....-.....) unm?)
 4.Gudmund Erikson Lindanger (.....-.....))
 5._____ Eriks_____ Lindanger* (.....-.....)
 6._____ Eriks_____ Lindanger* (.....-.....)
 7._____ Eriks_____ Lindanger* (.....-.....)
 8.Emil Erikson Lindanger (.....-.....))

7.Agnete Johannesdatter Lindanger* (.....-Dec....,1915)
 Sigve Sigveson Stølsvik* (.....-.....)
 m. (.....) at Skjold Church?, Norway

1?Lena Sigvesdatter Stølsvik (.....-.....))
 G_____ E_____ Bach (.....-.....))
 m. (.....) at
 1.Earl _____ Bach

2?Josefine Sigvesdatter Stølsvik (.....-.....))
 Albert _____ Rasmussen (.....-.....))
 m. (.....) at

1.Evelyn _____ Rasmussen m. N_____ S_____ Nilsson
 1.Ann Elizabeth Nilsson
 2._____ Rasmussen

3?_____ Sigves_____ Stølsvik* (.....-.....)
 4?Sigvald Sigveson Stølsvik* (.....-.....,1932)
 5?Johannes Sigveson Stølsvik* (.....-.....,1908)
 6?_____ Sigves_____ Stølsvik* (.....-.....)

8.Gudmund Johanneson Lindanger* (.....-.....)
 _____ (.....-.....)
 m. (.....) at

1._____ Gudmunds_____ Lindanger (.....-.....))
 2._____ Gudmunds_____ Lindanger (.....-.....))
 3._____ Gudmunds_____ Lindanger (.....-.....))
 4._____ Gudmunds_____ Lindanger (.....-.....))

3.Osmund Larson Sandvik* (.....-.....) unm.

4.Eli Larsdatter Sandvik* (.....,1810-.....,1896)
Gudmund Torgerson Lindanger (Velde)* (Mar.26,1807-Jul.8,1854/7)
m. (.....,1830?) at Nerstrand Church, Norway
(Gudmund was first cousin of father of Ole & Johannes Lindanger)

1.Sigrid Gudmundsdatter Velde* (.....,1834-.....)

2.Marthe Serine Gudmundsdatter Velde* (.....,1835-.....)
Jens Jonson Haarde* (.....,1835?-.....)
m. (.....) at Skjold Church, Norway

1.Jon Jenson Haarde (John Hardy)* (Jan.30,1858-Mch.8,1929)
Tilla Hanson (Aug.4,1867-)
m. (Sept.14,1884) at Hanley Falls, Minnesota

1.Jerry Helvenius Hardy* m. Camilla Helena Lokensgaard
1.Paul Erling Hardy
2.John Ingulf Hardy
3.Phyllis Ingeborg Hardy
4.David Jerry Hardy

2.Gudmund Jenson Haarde (Gudmund Hardy)* (Aug.23,1861-.....,1944)
Mary McKinley* (Jul.23,1864-Apr.23,1923)
m. (Dec.22,1886) at Hanley Falls, Minnesota

1.Arthur Justin Hardy m. Theresa Ellen Thornson
1.Melvin Arthur Hardy m. Mildred Justine Lillian Johnson
1.James Thornson Hardy
2.Margaret May Hardy m. William Joseph Brull
1.Mary Ellen Brull
2.Helen Margaret Brull
3.Richard Gordon Hardy
2.Anna May Hardy m. Charles Frederick Healy
1.Charles Frederick Healy Jr.
2.Donald Edward Healy

3.Jens Jenson Haarde (Jens Hardy)* (.....-.....,1892?) unm.

4.Serine Jensdatter Haarde (Serena Hardy)*
(.....-.....) unm.

4. Eli Larsdatter Sandvik -- Gudmund Torgerson Lindanger (Velde)

2. Marthe Serine Gudmundsdatter Velde &

Jens Jonson Haarde Family, continued:

5. Lars Jenson Haarde* (Aug. 23, 1869-Mar. 27, 1914)

Marie Aadenesdatter Skaalnes* (June 1, 1870-June .., 1909?)

m. (....., 1895) at Sandeid Church, Norway

1. Serina Martha Larsdatter Haarde m. Jens Toroson Helgeland

1. Lars Jenson Helgeland

2. Ella Manghild Jensdatter Helgeland*

3. Magne Jensdatter Helgeland

2. Johanna Larsdatter Haarde m. Gunnar Gunnarson Sandnes

(Gunnar is a brother-in-law of Lovise Paulsdtr Urdahl)

1. Britta Gunnarsdatter Sandnes

2. Marie Gunnarsdatter Sandnes

3. Lars Gunnar Gunnarson Sandnes

3. Martha Larsdatter Haarde* unm.

4. Thea Marie Larsdatter Haarde m. Tjorund Erikson Gronstad or
Groensdall? (of Etne)

1. Einar Tjerundson

5. Jens Larson Haarde (Jens Hardy) m. Camilla ___dtr Mjolsnes*
(div.)

1. Lars Hardy

Jens Larson Haarde (Jens Hardy) rem. Bernice Teresa Nelson

2. Earl Maynard Hardy

3. Evelyn Martha Hardy

4. Beverly Jean Hardy

6. Aadne Larson Haarde (Arne Hardy)* m. Thina ___ Strand

1. Lloyd Martin Hardy

2. Richard Duane Hardy

3. Milton Eugene Hardy

4. Doris Ann Hardy

7. Lauritz Larson Haarde (Leirvikken) m. Oddbjorg ___dtr Lotsberg

1. ___ Lauritz ___ Leirvikken

8. Ella Larsdatter Haarde

4.Eli Larsdatter Sandvik -- Gudmund Torgerson Lindanger (Velde)

2.Marthe Serine Gudmundsdatter Velde &

Jens Jonson Haarde Family, concluded:

6.Ole Jenson Haarde (Ole Hardy) (Mch.5,1872-)

Inger Augusta Gilbertsen* (Feb.23,1873-Feb.4,1941)

m. (Mch.12,1896) at Hanley Falls, Minnesota

1.Mabel Belvena Hardy m. Edgar Clarence Stevens

1.Allard Eugene Stevens m. Judith Agnes Olson

1.Sandra Kay Stevens

2.Sharon Deanne Stevens (twin of Sandra Kay)

2.Gotfred Eugene Hardy

3.Amy Ovidia Hardy m. Earl Clarence Peterson

1.James Grandin Peterson

2.Jerry Douglas Peterson

7.Osmund Jenson Haarde (.....-)

Maria Johannesdatter Haarde* (.....-.....)

m. (.....) at Sandeid Church, per Stavanger, Nor.

(Osmund and Maria were cousins)

1.Infant mort sa mere*

Osmund Jenson Haarde remarried

_____ sdatter _____* (.....-.....)

m. (.....) at Sandeid Church?, Norway

2.Jens Osmundson Haarde (Jens Hardy) un m.

Osmund Jenson Haarde remarried

Malena (Mala) Christofersdatter Haualand (.....-.....)

m. (.....) at Sandeid Church, Norway

3.Sverre Osmundson Haarde*

4.Arne Osmundson Haarde

5.Serine Osmundsdatter Haarde

8.Gurine Jensdatter Haarde (.....-)

Guner Guner?son Helleland* (.....-.....)

m. (.....) at Sandeid Church, Norway

1.Margaret Gunersdatter Helleland m. Gudmund _____ son Vik

2.Sigrid Gunersdatter Helleland m. _____

3.Gunar Gunerson Helleland

4.Hendrik Gunerson Helleland

5._____ Guners_____ Helleland

4. Eli Larsdatter Sandvik -- Gudmund Torgerson Lindanger (Velde)

3. Laurentse Gudmundsdatter Velde* (....., 1838-Mch. 28, 1920)

Nels Kristenson Urdal* (.....-.....)

m. (.....) at Skjold Church, Norway

1. Gudmund Nelson Urdal (Gudmund Urdahl)* (.....-....., 1918)

Anna _____ Olson* (.....-.....)

m. (.....) at

1. Neander _____ Urdahl* m. Ida _____ Himley

1. Delores _____ Urdahl

2. Verona _____ Urdahl m. Wallace _____ Carlson

1. Connie Jo Carlson

3. Dennis Le Roy Urdahl*

2. Melvina _____ Urdahl m. Raymond _____ Stead*
rem. Paul W _____ Johnson

3. Sander Urdahl*

4. Gertie Alvera Urdahl m. Paul W _____ Palmer

5. Sander _____ Urdahl m. Luverne _____ Vogelsang

2. Kristen Nelson Urdal (Christian Urdahl) (June 20, 1861-

Hillborg Rauberg* (.....-.....)

m. (.....) at

1. Nickolai _____ Urdahl m. Lillie _____ Norem

1. Delores Mae Urdahl

2. Adelia _____ Urdahl*

3. Adelia _____ Urdahl m. Martin _____ Engen

1. Milan Dean Engen

4. Laurença _____ Urdahl m. Ole _____ Prestebak

1. Phyllis Elaine Prestebak m. Almond _____ Sollom

1. Robert Orland Sollom

2. Dorothy Lois Prestebak*

3. Robert Keith Prestebak

5. Carrie _____ Urdahl

6. Ludolph _____ Urdahl*

3. Lauris (Lars) Nelson Urdal* (June 20, 1861-.....)
(Lauris was a twin of Kristen)

4. Sigurd Nelson Urdal* (.....-.....)

5. Peder Andreas Nelson Urdal* (June 3, 1866-Nov. 20, 1922)

Maria Andria Peterson (Jan. 20, 1877-

m. (June 16, 1904) at

(Marie has remarried)

1. Verda Almira Urdal m. Harold L _____ Powers

2. Wendel _____ Urdal*

3. Wedolyn Iona Urdal m. Fray _____ Hobson

6. Ella Serine Nelsdatter Urdal (Nov. 10, 1870-

Gudmund Torgerson Velde (Feb. 22, 1866-

m. (Nov. ..., 1889) at Yellow Medicine Church, Sandnes,
(Ella Serine & Gudmund are first cousins. Now div.) Minn.

1. Tolerius Velde m. Ella Jeannette Kalberg

1. Gerold Jerome Velde m. Harriet Corrine Cole

2. Leon Ellsworth Velde

3. Ellayne Tolora Velde

2. Neander Velde

3. Conrad Velde m. Alice _____ Viken

1. Gwendolyn Ovidia Velde

4. Ludolph Velde m. Myrtle _____ Armstrong

1. Gorman Roger Velde

5. Edgar Velde

6. Gissur (George) Velde m. Theola _____ Lund

7. Martin Sigvald Velde m. Frances _____ Nagle

4. Eli Larsdatter Sandvik -- Gudmund Torgerson Lindanger (Velde)

3. Laurentse Gudmundsdatter Velde & Nels Kristenson Urdal Family, continued:

7. Sesselia Marie Nelsdatter Urdal (May 23, 1873-)
Jacob Bernhard Oleson Nasheim (Apr. 30, 1866-)
m. (Oct. 11, 1891) at Clarkfield, Minnesota

1. Oscar Emel Nasheim m. Rachel Adeline Fisher

1. Marie Adeline Nasheim

2. Gladys Herberta Nasheim

3. James Jacob Nasheim

4. Frances Luella Emeline Nasheim

5. Darlene Caroline May Nasheim

6. Lavina Madeline Nasheim

7. Alice Allouise Nasheim

2. Neliu Gudeen Nasheim m. Hazel Irene Wedington

1. La Verne Nasheim

2. Margaret Coleen Nasheim

3. Lauris Herbert Nasheim m. Evelyn _____ Stephen

1. Diane May Nasheim

4. Benjamin Junior Nasheim m. Marien Frances Bird

1. Harold _____ Nasheim

2. Beulah Hazel Nasheim

3. Carmin Lyle Nasheim

4. Doreen Helen Nasheim

5. Vernon Eugene Nasheim

5. LeRoy Benunie Nasheim m. Dorothy _____ Fester

1. Shirley Fay Nasheim

6. Myron Edger Nasheim m. Gertrud Jean Duncan

1. Myron Kenneth Nasheim

2. Grace Jean Nasheim

7. Rudolph Chester Nasheim m. Mabel Ruth Duncan (sister of Gertrud?)

1. Luella Catherine Nasheim

2. Maxine Marie Nasheim

3. Sharon Priscilla Nasheim

8. Floyd Arnold Nasheim m. Mabel Gertrude Gee

1. Muriel Bernice Nasheim

8. Lauris (Lars) Nelson Urdal* (....., 1875/6-....., 1897)

4. Eli Larsdatter Sandvik -- Gudmund Torgerson Lindanger (Velde)

3. Laurentse Gudmundsdatter Velde & Nels Kristenson Urdal Family,
concluded:

9. Osmund Nelson Urdal (Aug. 20, 1878-
Petra Rothe* (Oct. 14, 1880-Sept. 8, 1940)
m. (.....) at

1. Clenora Urdal m. Clifford Storholm

2. Noble Lenord Urdal m. Olga Lokken

1. Marjorie Patricia Urdal

2. Richard Ordway Urdal

3. Charles Noble Urdal

4. Beverly Joy Urdal

3. Ludolph Gerhard Urdal

4. Luela Urdal m. Emil Lundeen

1. Erling Leroy Lundeen

2. Merle Laverne Lundeen

5. Orville Prescott Urdal

6. Vernon Lester Urdal m.

1. Larry Dean Urdal

7. Orda Urdal m. Dayton Silk

10. Freddy Nickolai Urdal (June 25, 1881-
Mabel Norem (.....)
m. (.....) at
(Mabel is a sister of Lillie Norem)

1. Nordeen Spencer Urdal

2. Marion Lloyd Urdal

3. Margaret Fredonna Urdal

4. Henry Donald Urdal*

5. Robert Urdal

6. Donald Westley Urdal m. Georgia Evergreen

7. Dorothy Marie Urdal m. Lloyd Wilhens

1. Sherry Lee Wilhens

8. June Yvonne Urdal

11. Laurença Amanda Urdal* (.....-.....)

12. Inga Adelia Urdal* (.....-.....) (twin of Laurença)

4. Eli Larsdatter Sandvik -- Gudmund Torgerson Lindanger (Velde)

4. Torger Gudmundson Velde* (....., 1840-Spr....., 1906)
Kari Olesdatter Bjoa* (Aug. 22, 1844-Mch. 7?, 1893)
m. (Sum....., 1862/5) at Fjellberg Church, Norway

1. Serena Torgersdatter Velde* (....., 1863-....., 1879?)

2. Gudmund Torgerson Velde (Feb. 22, 1866-)
Ella Serine Nelsdatter Urdal (Nov. 10, 1870-)
m. (Nov...., 1889) at Yellow Medicine Church, Sandnes, Minnesota
(Gudmund and Ella Serine are first cousins; now div.)

1. Tolerius Velde m. Ella Jeannette Kalberg
1. Gerold Jerome Velde m. Harriet Corrine Cole
2. Leon Ellsworth Velde
3. Ellayne Tolora Velde

2. Neander Velde

3. Conrad Velde m. Alice _____ Viken

1. Gwendolyn Ovidia Velde

4. Ludolph Velde m. Myrtle _____ Armstrong

1. Gorman Roger Velde

5. Edgar Velde

6. Gissur (George) Velde m. Theola _____ Lund

7. Martin Sigvald Velde m. Frances _____ Nagle

Gudmund Torgerson Velde remarried

Lisa Elida Enevoldsdatter Stangeland Christenson Lien
(Aug. 15, 1887-)

m. (Jul. 18, 1928) at Benson, Minnesota

3. Ole Lauris Torgerson Velde (Oct. 18, 1871-)
Serena Anderson (Jul. 30, 1872-)
m. (Jul. 18, 1898) at Cottonwood, Minnesota

1. Melvin _____ Velde m. Hilda _____ Winson Oakland

1. Lanne _____ Velde

2. Myron _____ Velde

2. Kenneth _____ Velde m. Judith _____ Lowe

1. John Kenneth Velde

2. Betty Jane Velde

3. David Owen Velde (adopted out)

3. Selma Odelia Velde m. Melvin _____ Veen

1. Richard _____ Veen

2. Duane _____ Veen

4. Roy _____ Velde m. Mable _____ Rye

1. Ronald _____ Velde

2. Duane _____ Velde

4. Eli Larsdatter Sandvik -- Gudmund Torgerson Lindanger (Velde)

4. Torger Gudmundson Velde & Kari Olesdatter Bjoa Family, continued:

4. Karen Marie Torgersdatter Velde (Maria Olava Torgersdatter Velde)
(Jan. 22, 1874-....., 1944)

Martin Teodor Martinson Haga (Alfsnes) (Haga)

(May 3, 1874-)

m. (May 1/3, 1898) at Skjold Ch., Ovre Vats, Hoiland Sogn,

1. Martin Martinson Alfsnes (Haga) (Vatne) m. Nor.

Anna Olesdatter Berkeland

1. _____ Martinsdatter Vatne?

2. Trygve Martinson Alfsnes (Haga) m. Anna Mjolhus Hjelmeland

1. Marit Trygvesdatter Haga*

2. Olav Trygveson Haga

3. Marit Trygvesdatter Haga

3. Klara Martinsdatter Alfsnes (Haga) m. Bjorn Andreas Sobo Hjelmeland

1. Anna Marie Hjelmeland

2. Martin Olav Hjelmeland

4. Thorval Martinson Haga?*

5. Infant daughter*

6. Magnus Martinson Haga m. Dora Matilda Rosetter

1. Carol Dorian Haga

2. Curtis Allen Haga

3. Judith Anne Haga

7. Infant son*

8. Kristine Taletta Martinsdatter Haga m. Peter _____ son Lilleng

1. Bjorg Marie Petersdatter Lilleng

9. Martha Serine Martinsdatter Haga m. Stein _____ son Brastein

1. Infant son*

10. Infant son*

11. Thorborg Martinsdatter Haga

12. Kari Martinsdatter Haga (twin of Thorborg) m.

Gunnar _____ son Vold (Vigrestad)

1. Gunnar Gunnarson Vigrestad

13. Infant son*

14. Thorval Martinson Haga

4. Eli Larsdatter Sandvik -- Gudmund Torgerson Lindanger (Velde)

4. Torger Gudmundson Velde & Kari Olesdatter Bjoa Family, concluded:

5. Faltin Olai Torgerson Velde (Jan. 19, 1876-)
Ellen Severine Ivarsdatter Foien (Aug. 10, 1880-)
m. (Mch. 16, 1902) at Cottonwood, Minnesota

1. Henry Clarence Velde*
2. Therol Velde m. Gladys _____ Johnson
 1. Rose Caroline Velde
 2. Mabel Johanna Velde
 3. Ole Therol Velde
3. Freda Eleanor Velde m. Vernon James Rockman
 1. Veldine June Rockman
4. Inez Harriett Velde
5. Camilla Svanhild Velde m. John Arthur Edland
6. Kermit Velde m. Bernice _____ Hanson
 1. Joanne Faith Velde
 2. Janet Mae Velde
 3. Paul Dwight Velde
 4. Ellen Ida Velde
7. Bertha Lucille Velde
8. Ruth Doris Velde m. Ira Julian Hanson (..... of Bernice)
 1. Syrie Yvonne Hanson
 2. Forbes Tyrone Hanson
 3. Delano Velde Hanson
9. Faltin Lloyd Velde
10. LaGrant Idon Velde m. Beatrice Elaine Peterson
 1. Muriel Eleanson Velde
11. Ellen Corrine Velde
12. Joanne Cecilia Velde

6. Serena Torgersdatter Velde* (....., 1880?-....., 1907?)

7. Osmund Amiel Torgerson Velde* (Jul. 4, 1883-Apr. 7?, 1939)
Clara O _____ ? Johnson (.....-)
m. (June .., 1909) at Portland, Oregon

1. Margaret _____ Velde
2. Vernice _____ Velde m. Paul E _____ Gibson*
 1. Nancy Pauline Gibson
3. Alice _____ Velde m. Theodore _____ Niska

8. Thea Karena Torgersdatter Velde (Feb. 13, 1890-)
Ernest Calvin Daby (May 14, 1883-)
m. (Apr. 2, 1908) at Granite Falls, Minnesota

1. Tillman Meredith Daby
2. Ethel Rozette Daby
3. Virgil Arthur Daby
4. Marie Pamella Daby m. Alton James Erie
 1. James Alton Erie
 2. Kathryn Marie Erie
5. Eloise Grace Daby m. Arthur Christopher Peterson
 1. Calvin Arthur Peterson
6. Donald Francis Daby m. _____

Torger Gudmundson Velde remarried

Valborg Reinertsdatter Nerheim* (....., 1867-....., 1940?)
m. (Sum., 1895) at InBjoa, Fjeldberg Sogn?, Norway

4. Eli Larsdatter Sandvik -- Gudmund Torgerson Lindanger (Velde)
5. Osmund Gudmundson Velde (Osmund Veldey* (Aug. 29?, 1843/5-Dec. 22, 1922)
Kjersdina Tönnisdatter Gilje (Dena Hanson*
(Sept. 20, 1858-....., 1944)
m. (....., 1877) at Sillefjord P.O., Minnesota
1. Enok Godtfred Veldey* (Mch. 17, 1877-Feb. 11, 1889)
2. Tedlef Amandius Veldey (Aug. 29, 1878-)
Zalla _____ Dille (.....-)
m. (.....) at Granite Falls, Minnesota
3. Lauritz Olia Veldey (Lewis Veldey) (Aug. 9, 1880-) unm.
4. Henry Martinus Veldey* (Sept. 29, 1882-May 21, 1883)
5. Ella Adelia Veldey* (May 13, 1884-Nov. 28, 1884)
6. Henry Martinus Veldey (Dec. 28, 1885-)
Hilda _____ Gulickson (.....-)
m. (.....) at Hanley Falls, Minnesota
1. Harmon _____ Veldey m. Delores _____
1. Gerald _____ Veldey
2. Katherine _____ Veldey m. Jerry _____ Mier
1. Richard _____ Mier
2. Mary _____ Mier
7. Selmer Ferdinan Veldey* (Apr. 7, 1888-June 26, 1888)
8. Enok Godtfred Veldey (May 14, 1889-)
Helga Torgersdatter Tweedt (Sept. 21, 1900-)
m. (Feb. 1, 1919) at Granite Falls, Minnesota
1. Ordell Tyler Veldey m. _____ Rundholt
1. _____ Veldey
2. Ernest Gordon Veldey
3. Arthur Kenneth Veldey
9. Ella Adelia Veldey* (Feb. 18, 1893-Sept. 11, 1938)
Charles E _____ Stevenson* (.....-....., 1937)
m. (.....) at Sheridan, Wyoming
10. Selmer Ferdinan Veldey (Jan. 9, 1891-)
Lucille _____ Chalderman (.....-)
m. (.....) at Spokane, Washington
1. Infant*
2. Lucille _____ Veldey
3. Betty _____ Veldey
4. Phyllis _____ Veldey
11. Cleford Oliver Veldey (Oct. 23, 1898-)
Hazel Margaret Towner (Oct. 24, 1901-)
m. (Feb. 11, 1927) at Winona, Minnesota
1. John Carleton Veldey
2. Infant son*
3. Infant daughter*
4. Margaret Dianne Veldey
5. James Oliver Veldey*
6. Infant*
12. Esther Kornelia Veldey (Oct. 10, 1901-)
Richard (Mont) _____ Wickham (.....-)
m. (.....) at Hanley Falls, Minnesota
1. Richard _____ Wickham

4. Eli Larsdatter Sandvik -- Gudmund Torgerson Lindanger (Velde)

6. Anna Karine Gudmundsdatter Velde* (....., 1846/7-.....)
 Paul Kristenson Urdal* (.....-.....)
 m. (.....) in Vats?, Skjold Sogn, Norway
 (Paul was a brother of Nels Kristenson Urdal)

1. Gudmund Paulson Urdal (.....-.....)
 _____sdatter _____* (.....-.....)
 m. (.....) in Skjold Sogn?, Norway

1. Arne Gudmundson Urdal
2. _____ Gudmunds _____ Urdal
3. _____ Gudmunds _____ Urdal

Gudmund Paulson Urdal remarried
 _____sdatter _____ (.....-.....)
 m. (.....) in Skjold Sogn?, Norway

2. Cecelia (Selia) Paulsdatter Urdal* (.....-.....)
 Hendrik Stenson Urdal (.....-.....)
 m. (.....) in Skjold Sogn?, Norway
 (Hendrik remarried Serine Pedersdatter Lønde)
 1? _____ Hendriks _____ Urdal

3. Serine Paulsdatter Urdal (.....-.....)
 Ole Olson Lønde* (.....-.....)
 m. (.....) in Skjold Sogn?, Norway
 1. _____ Ols _____ Lønde m. _____
 2? Kristian Olson Lønde
 3. _____ Ols _____ Lønde
 4. _____ Ols _____ Lønde
 5. _____ Ols _____ Lønde

4. Maria Paulsdatter Urdal (.....-.....)
 Peder Sjurson Velde (.....-.....)
 m. (.....) at Skjold Church?, Norway

5. Kristen Paulson Urdal (.....-.....)
 Anne _____sdatter Gjerde (.....-.....)
 m. (.....) at
 1. _____
 2. _____
 3. _____
 4. _____

6. Peder Paulson Urdal (Bjoa?) (.....-.....)
 _____sdatter Gjerde (.....-.....)
 m. (.....) at
 (Peder's wife is a sister of Anna Gjerde)
 1. _____ Peders _____ Bjoa?
 2? _____ Peders _____ Bjoa?

7. Lovise Paulsdatter Urdal (.....-.....)
 Kolbein Gunnarson Sandnes (.....-.....)
 m. (....., 1917) in Skjold Sogn?, Norway
 1. Gustav Kolbeinson Sandnes
 2? Peder Kolbeinson Sandnes
 3? Bjarne Kolbeinson Sandnes
 4? Agnes Kolbeinsdatter Sandnes
 5? Lily Kolbeinsdatter Sandnes
 6. _____ Kolbeins _____ Sandnes

8. Anna Paulsdatter Urdal (.....-.....)
 Hans Iverson Vestvold (.....-.....)
 m. (.....) at

4. Eli Larsdatter Sandvik -- Gudmund Torgerson Lindanger (Velde)

7. Eli Serine Gudmundsdatter Velde* (....., 1849?-....., 1933)

Sjur Jakobson Krakk* (.....-.....)

m. (.....) at Skjold Church, Norway

1. _____ Sjursdatter Krakk (.....-)
Elias Faltinson Elleflot (.....-)
m. (.....) at Skjold Church, Norway

2. _____ Sjursdatter Krakk (.....-)
_____ son Ostrøm (.....-)
m. (.....) at

3. _____ Sjursdatter Krakk (.....-) unm.

4. _____ Sjursdatter Krakk (.....-) unm.

5. Jakob Sjurson Krakk (.....-)
_____ sdatter _____ (.....-)
m. (.....) at Skjold Church, Norway

1. _____ Kakobs _____ Krakk

2. _____ Jakobs _____ Krakk

3. _____ Jakobs _____ Krakk

4. _____ Jakobs _____ Krakk

6. _____ Sjursdatter Krakk (.....-)
(twin of Jakob)

8. Lars Gudmundson Velde* (....., 1849/50-....., 1855)

Eli Larsdatter Sandvik (Velde) remarried

Valentin Valentinson Elleflot (Faltin Faltinson Elleflot)

(.....-.....)

m. (.....) at

(Valentin(s) father was a first cousin? of Elias Faltinson
Elleflot's grandfather)

S E C T I O N I I

· S T A T I S T I C S

THE FAMILY'S MOST LONG-LIVED MEMBERS¹

Deceased -- Arranged According to Age at Death

			Yrs.	Mos.	Days
Vilum Vilumson Erland	1806-	1905	99		
Knute Sampson	Jul.13,1844-	1942	98		
William G. Olson	Jun. 8,1845-Nov. 8,1942		97	- 5	
Ole G. Sevig	Mch.25,1844-Apr.27,1940		96	- 1	- 2
Lars Vilumson Vaggeli	1847 ⁸	1942?	95?		
Tormud O. Thompson	Aug.11,1847-Sep.30,1940		93	- 1	- 19
Tollef O. Thompson	Jul.18,1850-Jan.21,1943		92	- 6	- 3
Ira S. Sampson	Feb.17,1846-Nov.21,1937		91	- 9	- 4
Nels O. Nelson	Oct.23,1848-May 12,1940		91	- 6	- 19
Ellen Sampson Tow	Feb. 2,1825-Oct.10,1915		90	- 8	- 8
Osmund Thomason	Mch.20,1788-Jul.16,1876		88	- 3	- 26
Syvert Sigveson Sandvik	Feb. 2,1842-May 10,1930		88	- 3	- 8
Sarah Anna Knudson Christian	Oct.18,1856-Jul. 5,1944		87	- 8	- 17
Thomas Erickson	Jan.12,1813-Feb.11,1900		87	- 0	- 29
Osmund Thomason Jr.	Aug.31,1831-May 25,1918		86	- 8	- 24
Barney G. Olson	Apr.24,1847-Dec.23,1933		⁹¹ 86	- 7	- 29
Ann Thomason Danielson	Jul. 4,1834-Feb.24,1921		86	- 7	- 20

Living -- as of Jan.1,1946 -- Arranged According to Age

Daniel Christopher Danielson	Jan. 4,1859	87
Kristen(Christian)Nelson Urdal	Jun.20,1861	85
Laura Iverson	Aug. 1862	84
Anna Matilda Hanson Egeland	Mch.30,1863	83
Henry Matthias Thomason	Sep. 6,1863	83
Tormud Guttormson Hundsnes	1863	83

¹Only those of the blood

MEMBERS OF THE FAMILY EMIGRATING TO AMERICA¹
(Arranged according to year of arrival)

<u>Norwegian Name</u>	<u>American Name</u>	<u>Year</u>
Osmund Guttormson Musland (Erland) ² (Meling)	Osmund Thomason	1837
Bertha Mattiasdatter Sorvaag (Erland)(Meling)	Bertha Thomason	1837
Mary Osmundsdatter Erland (Meling)	Mary Thomason (Madison) ³	1837
Guttorm Osmundson Erland (Meling)	Thomas Thomason	1837
Erik Osmundson Erland (Meling)	Ira Thomason	1837
Osmund Osmundson Erland (Meling)	Osmund Thomason	1837
Anna Osmundsdatter Meling	Ann Thomason (Danielson)	1837
Mattias Osmundson Meling	Mathias Thomason	1837
Kristen Kristenson Valle	Christopher Danielson	1837
Guttorm Erikson Aursland	Thomas Erickson	1837
Mary Andersdatter Brainerd	Mary Brainerd (Thomason)	1837
Maas Maason Ege	Mads Madison	1839
Anders Knudson Waethe	Andrew Knudson	1844
Erik Erikson Aursland	Erick Erickson earlier or	1845
Knute Oleson Maaland	Knute Knutson(Knute Molan)	1846
Gulia Thoresdatter Grindeim	Julia Gunderson (Thomason)	1847
Serena Tormudsdatter Hundsnes	(?)	1849
Eli Serena Eriksdatter Aursland (Storesund)	Serena Nelson (Sarah Hanson)	1849
Ole Nelson Storesund	Ole Nelson	1849
Nels Oleson Storesund	Nels O. Nelson	1849
Endre Taug	Andrew Tow 1849 or	1850
Anna Marthe Eriksdatter Aursland	Martha Erickson (Knudson)	1849
Gunla Serine Persdatter Neset	Julia Pearson (Erickson)	1850
John Hanson Ostenstad	John Hanson	1854
Knute Knuteson Aspeland (Fjelde) (Stakkestad)	Sampson K. Sampson	1855
Maren Eriksdatter Aursland(Stakkestad)	Maren Sampson	1855
Knute Knuteson Stakkestad	Knute Sampson	1855
Erik Knuteson Stakkestad	Ira S. Sampson	1855
Martha Elizabeth Knutesdatter (Stakkestad)	Martha Sampson (Anderson)	1855
Ellen Serena Knutesdatter Sampson	Ellen Sampson (Tow)	1855
Bertha Maria Knutesdatter Stakkestad	Betsey Sampson (Anderson)	1855
Guttorm Knuteson Stakkestad	Thomas Sampson	1855
Eli Guttormsdatter Musland (Erland) (Aursland)	Ellen Erickson	1855
Boletta Anstensdatter Erikson	Betsy Erickson (Olson)	1858
Kjersdina Tønnisdatter Gilje	Dena Hanson (Veldey)1860 or	1862
Karena Olesdatter Kallecod	Karena Nilson(Karena Kallecod)	1865
Lars Nilson Slogvig (Kallecod)	Lars Nilson(Lars Kallecod)	1865
Gunder Oleson Egge (Munkhus)(Valland) (Søvik)	Gunder Olson	1866
Anna Serena Vilumsdatter Erland (Munkhus)(Valland)(Søvik)	Anna Serena Olson	1866
Ole Gunderson Munkhus(Valland)(Søvik)	Ole G. Sevig	1866
Vilum Gunderson Munkhus(Valland)(Søvik)	William G. Olson	1866
Baar Gunderson Valland (Søvik)	Barney G. Olson	1866
Bertha Serena Gundersdatter Valland(?) (Søvik)	Bertha Olson(Knutson) (Bertha Olson Molan)	1866
Hendrik Gunderson Søvik	Henry G. Olson	1866
Sarah Ellen Gundersdatter (Søvik)	Sarah Ellen Olson(Sampson)	1866

¹Third, fourth and fifth generations only.

²Norwegian names in parentheses are names acquired after names of birth, either by living on other farms or by marriage.

³American names in parentheses are those acquired after arrival, usually by marriage.

MEMBERS OF THE FAMILY EMIGRATING TO AMERICA
(Arranged according to year of arrival)

<u>Norwegian Name</u>	<u>American Name</u>	<u>Year</u>
Gunder Gunderson Sjøvik	George G. Olson	1866
Østen Holgerson Hetland	Osten Hetland	1867
Osmund Gudmundson Velde	Osmund Veldey	1866 or 1867
Ole Tøllefson Kallecod	Ole Thompson	1868
Maren Tørmudsdatter Hundsnes(Kallecod)	Maren Thompson	1868
Tormud Oleson Kallecod	Tormud O. Thompson	1868
Tollef Oleson Kallecod	Tollef O. Thompson	1868
Syvert Olaus Kallecod	Syvert O. Thompson	1868
Berta Serena Olesdatter Kallecod	Bertha Thompson (Ugland)	1868
Meta Helena Olesdatter Kallecod	Meta Thompson	1868
John Nelson Traelena	John Nelson	1868
Brunla Olesdatter Kallecod (Traelena)	Brunla Nelson	1868
Bertha Hendriksdatter Egge	Bertha Hendrickson (Sevig)	1870
Serena Olesdatter Stakkestad	Serena Olson (Anderson)	1871
Maren Ingebretsdatter Erland(Halleland)	Maren Williamson	1872
Vilum Vilumson Halleland	William Williamson	1872
Haakon Turben Anderson Valders	Henry T. Anderson	1872
Bertha Samsdatter Sorvaag	Bertha Sampson(?) (Olson)	1872
Guner Oleson Stakkestad	Guner Olson	(?) 1873
Segve Larson Hatlestad	Segve Iverson	1873
Gudmund Jenson Haarde	Gudmund Hardy	1878
Gudmund Nelson Urdal	Gudmund Urdahl	1879
Kristen Nelson Urdal	Christian Urdahl	1879
Jon Jenson Haarde	John Hardy	1880
Ellen Hansdatter Groenstad	Ellen Hanson(?) (Olson)	1880
Inga Eriksdatter Aursland(Stakkestad)	Inga Olson	1880
Martha Olesdatter Stakkestad	Martha Olson	1880
Nels Kristenson Urdal	Nels Urdahl	1880
Laurentse Gudmundsdatter Velde (Urdal)	Laurentse Urdahl	1880
Peder Andreas Nelson Urdal	Peter Urdahl	1880
Ella Serine Nelsdatter Urdal	Ella Serena Urdahl(Velde)	1880
Sessela Marie Nelsdatter Urdal	Marie Urdahl (Nasheim)	1880
Osmund Nelson Urdal	Osmund Urdahl	1880
Jens Jenson Haarde	Jens Hardy	(?) 1881
David Larson Eggesdal	Dave Olson	1880 or 1881
Maren Johanna Guttormsdatter Frøvik	Maren Frovik (Olson)	1881 or 1882
Iver Christian Larson Hatlestad	Iver C. Hatlestad	1881
Laura Larsdatter Hatlestad	Laura Hatlestad(Richardson)	1881
	(Thorpe)	
Syvert Larson Hatlestad	Syvert Hatlestad	1883
Bjoren Bjorenson Topnes III	Bjoren Topnes	(?) 1885
Knute Bjorenson Topnes	Knute Topnes	1885
Amanda Loraine Jurigina	Amanda Bergland (Orke)	1885
Asseusdatter Bergeland		
Gudmund Torgerson Velde	Gudmund T. Velde	1885
Peder Aadneson Egeland	Peter Egeland	1885
Martin Laurias Larson Hatlestad	Martin L. Hatlestad	1885
Sevrine Guttormson Hundsnes	Severin G. Thompson	1886
Ole Ingebretson Erland	Ole Erland	1886
Bertha Serena Larsdatter Hatlestad	Bertha Farland	1887
(Frøland)		
Jacob Bernhard Oleson Nasheim	Bernard Nasheim	1887
Johannes Nelson Yrke	Johannes Orke	1889
Ole Lauris Torgerson Velde	Ole Velde	1889
Segve Larson Amdal	Sigve Amdahl	1889
Seri Syvertsdatter Sandvik	Seri Sandyik (Holien)	1889
Johan Nelson Yrke	John Orke	1890
Berge Larson Amdal	Berge L. Amdahl	1890
Ole Jenson Haarde	Ole Hardy	1890
Serine Jensdatter Haarde	Serena Hardy	1890

MEMBERS OF THE FAMILY EMIGRATING TO AMERICA
(Arranged according to year of arrival)

<u>Norwegian Name</u>	<u>American Name</u>	<u>Year</u>
Lars Bergeson Amdal	Lars Amdahl	1891
Marthe(Mette) Margrethe Sigvesdatter	Metta Amdahl	1891
Martha Larsdatter Amdal	Martha Amdahl (Watland	1891
Berthe Serine Larsdatter Amdal	Bertha Serena Amdahl (Rendahl)	1891
Borge Severin Larson Amdal	Bert Amdal	1891
Lars Mandius Larson Amdal	Lars M. Amdal	1891
Mette Margrethe Larsdatter Amdal	Metta Amdal (Sterry)	1891
Laura Josefine Larsdatter Amdal	Laura Amdal (Ridenour)	1891
Kaia Lovise Larsdatter Amdal	Carrie Amdal (Rendahl)	1891
Thorvald Watland	Thorvald Watland	1892
Andreas Nelson Yrke	Andrew N. Orke	1893
Osmund Amiel Torgerson Velde	Osmund Velde	1893
Faltin Olai Torgerson Velde	Faltin Velde	1893
Karen Adolphsdatter Sandvik	Karen Sandvik (Carlson) (Sivertsen)	1893
Gunvald Sigveson Tysvaer	Gunvald Tysvaer(?)	(?)1898
Ellen Sevirene Ivarsdatter Foien	Ellen Foien (Velde)	1899
Lisa Elida Enevoldsdatter Stangeland	Elida Stangeland (Christenson)(Lien)(Velde)	1900
Sigve Sigveson Stolsvik	Sigve Sigveson Stolsvik?(?)	1900
Halvor Urrang	Halvor Urrang(?)	(?)1900
Ole Nelson Yrke	Ole Orke	1901
Lars Syvertson Sandvik	Lars Sandvik	1901
Segve Syvertson Sandvik	Sig Sivertsen	(?)1901
Lars Iverson Bjoland (Hattlestad)	Lars Hattlestad	1902
Anna Martha Segvesdatter Sandvik (Hattlestad)	Anna Martha Hattlestad	1902
Sønneva Larsdatter Hattlestad(Torisdal)	Sonneva Torisdal	1902
Thea Karena Torgersdatter Velde	Thea Velde (Daby)	1904
Andreas Oskerson Leiranger	Andrew Leranger	1905
Helga Torgersdatter Tweedt	Helga Tweedt (Veldey)	1905
Lars Andreas Larson Espevik	Lars Espevik	1908
Marthe Margrethe Severine Syvertsdatter Sandvik	Margaret Sandvik (Dahl)	1908
Sigvald Sigveson Stølsvik	Sigvald Sigveson Stolsvik 1900-1909	1909
Agnete Johannesdatter Lindanger (Stølsvik)	Agnete Stolsvik	1909
Lena Sigvesdatter Stølsvik	Lena Stolsvik (Bach)	1909
Kaia Oline Larsdatter Espevik	Olene Espevik (Leranger)	1909
Olava Osmunda Syvertsdatter Sandvik	Osmunda Sandvik (Hetland)	1909
Marthe Larsdatter Lindanger	Martha A. Lindanger	1911
Olaf Gabrielson	Olaf Gabrielson	1920

Below - Dates Unknown

Holger Holgerson Leiranger(Mjolsnes)	Holger Leiranger(?)
Knud Solvason Ugland	Knud Ugland
Halvor H. Holien	Halvor H. Holien
Marie(a) H. Jephthine Gjertsen(?) Mastin (Oleson)	Mary E. (Olson)
Gudmund Erikson Lindanger	Gudmund Lindanger
Emil Erikson Lindanger	Emil Lindanger

S E C T I O N I I I

T H E S T O R Y

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CHAPTER I

Wherein we consider the name, farm, and land of our origin, and tell of the first and second generations

The name "Ikdal" is the last name of the only common ancestor of which we have knowledge. It is therefore of primary interest to the several thousand living members of our family, which must necessarily be called the Ikdal Family. However, due to the peculiarity of the custom of taking names in Norway, the name Ikdal is almost unknown to descendants. Therefore we will begin our story by considering the name in some detail.

Ikdal is the name of a farm in western Norway on which our common ancestor lived and from which he received his name. In Norway, the name of the farm or gaard,¹ as it is called, belongs to that farm permanently and is only acquired by the people who live on it. A man moving to a new farm loses the name of his old farm and acquires that of the new. If he is an old and well-established farmer in the community it may take a number of years before people remember to call him by his new name, and there may be an intermediate period when he is known by both names. But sooner or later Lars Lervik will become Lars Bringedal and who can say that he is a worse man for the change.

Rygh,² an authority on Norwegian farm names shows the name of the farm as "Igdall" in the year 1567. In 1610 it was called "Dalen" but by 1661 had returned to "Ickdahl". In 1723 it was "Ichdahl" but by the year 1915 it had become "Ikdal". The origin of the name is coupled with that of a river, Igoa, which is very definitely the name of a bird, the wagtail. This bird is a small water runner and is a common European bird not unlike our sandpiper. He loves the water and teeters constantly, which gives him the reputation of wagging his tail. Of course "dal" is the Norwegian "valley"; so we have "Ikdal" as the valley of many wagtails.

Ikdal, the farm, is located in the sogn and parish of Skjold (pronounced "shul"), Rogaland,³ Norway. Skjold and the adjacent parishes of Vats, Nerstrand, and Tysvaer include within their boundaries nearly all of our ancestral farms.⁴ These parishes are situated very near the town of Haugesund, which is a seaport on the west coast about one-third of the way between Stavanger on the south and Bergen on the north. The region is a rugged one for farming when judged by American standards, but in Norway it ranks about midway between the fertile rolling acres of the southeast and the extremely rugged coastline areas further north. The long finger-like incursions of the sea, or fjords, for which Norway is so justly famous as a land of beauty, are as prevalent here as elsewhere. The largest and the most important of these for the Ikdal family, is the Skjoldafjorden, with its western branch, Grindefjorden.

In the fjords nestle little islands ranging in size from tiny ones like the Aurslandssoyni to the big Borgøy. Between the fjords are the mountain ridges and uplands bejeweled with dozens of lakes like Am-dalsvatn and Storovatn. Many small streams connect the lakes with the fjords. Timbered areas are frequent but usually not extensive. And among the fjords, the lakes, the streams, and the timbered areas are the farms of our ancestors, located on the sloping shelves between

¹Pronounced something like "gore".

²Olaf Rygh, Norske Gaardnavne. 10:445 (Kristiania, 1915).

³Formerly Stavanger Amt; and before that Christiansandstift. Such a division corresponds to one of our states and the sogn to a county. However historians refer to an Amt as a county and to a sogn as a district.

⁴By "ancestral farms" is meant all farms inhabited by our first five generations.

the rocky uplands and the water, and encroaching on both as much as human industry can prevail upon an encompassing nature. Small one-story log houses, covered today by white-painted modern siding, peep out from among the trees to interest the traveler.

Ikdal itself is located in the south central part of Skjold close to the eastern edge of the Skjoldafjord at a point opposite the narrowest point of the Skjoldastraumen. The latter is the name given to the strait of water connecting the upper and lower parts of the fjord. The water rushes through the strait very rapidly with changes in the tide and there are locks here for the passage of boats. Near the locks and just across the Skjoldastraumen from Ikdal are a store and a few houses which make up the hamlet of Skjoldastrum. Osteinstad and Munkhus were the ancestral farms nearest to Ikdal.

It is said that Ikdal was "quite a big farm" with three husmannplass; one called Dalestyke, one called Veien, and a third. Now the size of the farm, especially in the days of our ancestors, was not estimated in terms of acres or similar measure but in terms of how much livestock it supported. A "big farm" such as our ancestral farm Sandvik, raised 20 cows, 3 horses, 50 sheep, and about 30 goats, and in addition had much timber; while a small farm like our ancestral Vaggeli was only large enough to support 7 cows and a horse. Some of the farms had one or more husmannplass, that is, a little place inhabited by a husmann. Now a husmann was a member of one of the three classes of Norwegian farmers: the bønder, who were the freeholders; the renters, who were virtually freeholders; and the husmenn or cotters who, in return for the use of a small patch of land and a hut, worked for a number of days each week for the bønder.¹ It was hard for the husmann to rise above his station.

We have said that the last name of our common ancestor was Ikdal. His first name has not come down to us but a knowledge of the Norwegian custom of bestowing first names and a glance at the family tree in the front part of this book enables us to make a good guess. "Usually the oldest son of the family was named after the father's father, the oldest daughter after the father's mother, and the next oldest son and daughter after the mother's father and mother respectively".² On the family tree we can apply this rule in both Guttorm and Martha Egdal's families and arrive at "Osmund" for our ancestor's first name. There are not enough names known in Johannes Egdal's family to cast too much doubt on this conclusion. We may therefore refer to our earliest known ancestor as Osmund(?) Egdal. His birth must have been around 1745.

Guttorm Egdal, oldest known son of Osmund(?) Egdal, married Maren Musland. Musland was a farm in Nerstrand parish about halfway between Sandvik and Nerstrand Strand on the main road and about two old Norwegian miles from Ikdal. "Musaland" was possibly the name of a river which still runs in its original channel; but more probably it is a direct combination of the word "land" with an animal name, perhaps a field mouse.³ Thus we have the "farm of the field mouse". Maren's father was a priest, or prest, whose wife's name may have been Karen. The prest was the minister of a parish or sogn (Sogneprest), although he might have to travel about. In the 1850's and 60's for example, one priest preached in Vats, Tysvaer, and Skjold on succeeding Sundays. However each church had a klokkar or parish clerk who took care of the building and rang the bell. But the priest lived on a farm and farmed like any other farmer, the only difference being that the government owned the land on which the priest lived.

Maren Musland was an only child and somewhat strong headed. She inherited the farm Musland and did not want to leave it so she and her husband Guttorm Ikdal lived there after marriage. Here on Musland all four of their children were born -- Maren, Seri, Eli, and Osmund. Guttorm however was not happy on Musland and wanted to be among his own people back in Skjold. He was interested in the farm Erland, just

¹Norwegian-American Studies and Records, 7:4 (Northfield, Minnesota)

²Ibid., 10

³Norske Gaardnavne, 10:294. (Passage translated by Jeannette Mather Lord) and Magnus Olsen, Farms and Fanes of Ancient Norway, 144, 209 (Oslo '28)

north of Skjoldastrum, but Maren had to be persuaded to move. Finally she agreed to go provided Guttorm built a house on Erland just like the one on Musland. So when the children were still very small the family moved across the Skjoldafjord to Erland.

The new home was located on the lower of the two farms on the gaard Erland, which was called Heimmegaard or the "home farm". It was a pretty good sized place. The other and higher farm was called Østregaard or the "east farm". It is also of importance in the history and will be discussed in later chapters.¹ (See chart in Chapter VIII) The people on Erland were always "well-to-do", it is said, but the gaard was not a large or a particularly good one, raising about 10 cows, one horse, and 20 sheep. When Guttorm was painting the new house he dropped a pail of paint and it spilled all over one of the windows. Maren made him buy a new window. Guttorm Erland died on Erland and he and Maren are probably buried in Skjold's kirkegaard (church graveyard).

Osmund(?) Egdal had a daughter, younger than Guttorm, called Martha.² She married Lars Segveson Kaarhus³ (1787) and lived on the farm Kaarhus. Lars had a brother Segve and another brother who lived on Stoltsvik, Nerstrand parish. They were the sons of Segve Segveson Sandvik (1751) and Anna Larsdatter (1760). Kaarhus was in Vats parish, which was east of Skjold but annexed to it and attended by a priest from there. Martha and Lars did not like Kaarhus so bought Sandvik (Sandweg in 1723), the second farm from the north end of Nerstrand, and adjacent to the gaard Stoltsvik. Sandvik was a big farm with a lot of timber. There were three husmenn. Although almost as rocky as other Norwegian farms, Sandvik was mostly level -- more so than the average. It supported 20 head of roan cattle, 50 sheep, 30 goats, and 3 horses, and raised hay, oats, barley, and vegetables.⁴ There were also apple, pear, and plum trees, gooseberries, etc. The timber was mostly pine, but there was a great deal of spruce and birch. There were two flour mills and a saw mill. A man having a farm with lots of trees was usually well-off as he could sell the timber.⁵ It is said that the farm "raised \$3000 one year". So Martha and Lars became quite well-to-do, in fact, "rich and independent" according to Norwegian rural standards. Sandvik ran down to the water on the southwest and was directly across from the big island Borgoy. On the south the nearest ancestral farm was Espevik, about two English miles; while Stoltvik was a little closer on the north.

Lars and Martha Sandvik also had four children: Segve, Seri, Osmund, and Eli. They were all born on Sandvik and grew up there. Lars must have been the first of the parents to die as we know that Martha spent the last years of her life with her oldest son, Segve, who inherited the farm. At Segve's home she had a separate room where she stayed nearly all the time, even for meals, as we learn from a great-grand nephew, Ole Sevig. When a lad of six or seven Ole⁶ went to work for Segve. On the first day he carried wood into Gamle⁶ Martha's room and she asked him his name. She then told him that she was related to him and invited him to sit down and talk to her and have something to eat. Ole said he couldn't just then as he was busy but that he would come

¹There was also a third farm in the 60's but it had a different name
²Her name was probably spelled "Marthe". In Norwegian "Olena" is usually "Oline", "Serena" is "Serine", etc. But since both types of spelling are found and most Norwegian-Americans have not been able to provide me with any other spelling than the American, the American spelling will be used in this book; except in those cases where there is definite knowledge of the Norwegian.

³Lars may have had a different last name before marriage. One record indicates he was born on Sandvik.

⁴Another account gives 10 or 12 cows, 1 or 2 horses, 50 to 100 sheep and many goats.

⁵While much of this description applies specifically to the late 1800's the Sandvik of Lars and Martha's time was probably not greatly dissimilar.

⁶Norwegian name meaning "old", used with individuals to denote old age or to distinguish from a younger person of the same name.

back in the evening.

That evening Ole sat at the table with Segve and his wife Bertha and their children. He wasn't eating very much as he was thinking of the meal Martha had promised him. One of Segve's daughters noticed this and asked him if he was homesick already. Ole replied, "No, I am only saving up to eat with Gamle Martha." So they told him to go into her room. He did this and they talked about relationships. This was the beginning of a great friendship, and as long as he worked for Segve (until he was eight or nine), Ole spent almost every evening after 8:00 o'clock in Gamle Martha's room making his shoes, at which he was good. We may well believe that Gamle Martha had a more than common understanding of children to keep Ole away from the cousins of his own age. One of these, Mette¹, slept with Martha at night.

Gamle Martha died in 1860 or 1861 and is probably buried with Lars in Nerstrand kirkegaard.

Osmund(?) Egdal had one other child besides Guttorm and Martha whose name has come down to us. This was Johannes Egdal. He apparently inherited Ikdal when his older brother Guttorm married and went to live on Musland, thus surrendering his right to his father's farm. Johannes had at least two children, the older of which was Jacob. The other was Seri.

CHAPTER II

The third generation, and where they lived in Norway

As noted in Chapter I, Guttorm Egdal had four children, all born on Musland: three daughters, Maren, Seri, and Eli; and one son, Osmund.

Maren Guttormsdatter Musland² grew up on Heimmegaard, Erland and married Tormud Sjurson Hundsnes about the year 1813. Hundsnes was located in the northeast corner of Tysvaer parish near the Skjoldafjord. It was not far from Skjold and at one time had belonged to that parish. Hundsnes was a big hilly gaard of many acres but most of it was timber and there were big timberlands on the place that had never been touched. It kept 10 or 12 cows and some sheep. The people on Hundsnes, like those on Sandvik and Lindanger, were always "good rich farmers or "tolerably well fixed" according to their cousins, and they all intermarried. There were two farms on Hundsnes and Maren and Tormud lived on the one to the north. The other was owned by Segve Hundsnes.³

Maren and Tormud Sjurson Hundsnes had five children: Sjur, Serena, Maren, Guttorm, and Burnla. Tormud died and Maren remarried, this time to Tollef Tollefson Kallecod (pronounced "Kal le kot", -- now the correct spelling⁴). Tollef was the third son born to Tollef Holverson Kallecod of Numedal and Kari Kallecod. In this family Holver was the oldest, and the other children were Ole, (of whom much more in a subsequent chapter) Tollef, John, Tormud, Brindla, and Helga. Holver had the right to inherit Kallecod at the time of his marriage, according to the Norwegian law of primogeniture. However his wife had a farm so

¹Norwegian girls sometimes wore their braids nearly to the floor.

²To agree with the actual name at the time of baptism, and to avoid confusion, the farm name of birth will be used wherever practical.

³A very old man in 1868 and had a son Sjur farming the place.

⁴"Kallekolde" in 1661; "Kalle Kodde" in 1723; "Kallecot" in 1915.

he allowed Kallecod to be purchased by the children next in line, apparently Ole and Brindla¹ as each bought part of the estate. Holver received some money and was considered quite well-to-do. He owned about half of the large island Borgina.² The other children, including Tollef, also probably received their due in compensation. However this left Tollef without a farm of his own so when he married the widow, Maren Hundsnes, the couple quite naturally lived on Hundsnes. Here they had a few acres (the main farm having already passed through inheritance) and farmed. Tollef also chopped down trees and sold logs and cordwood, and also fished a great deal. On Sundays Maren and Tollef occupied themselves with reading. They had two children, Karena and a second Serena, both auburn haired like the rest of Maren's children.

Maren's folgahus³ (house) was only about a rod from the main house on Hundsnes. It had one big room and a kitchen and bedroom. During the last months of her life, she became quite feeble and her daughter Serena, the younger, took care of her. She died in 1872 and was more than 80 years old.

Seri Guttormsdatter Musland was raised on Heimmegaard, Erland and married Vilum⁴ Vilumson Erland II⁵, one of a long line of Vilum Vilumson Erlands. Vilum was from the other farm on Erland, Ostregaard, part of which he inherited from his father, Vilum Vilumson Erland I. (See chart in Chapter VIII). There was no fence between the two farms and the two houses were separated only by the width of a city street. From either house there was an excellent view to the southeast across the Skjoldafjord but one had to go outside to enjoy it as the windows on both houses were on the side away from the water. Ostregaard has been in the same family for 300 to 470 years according to different traditions although the church records only go back 150 years to the time of a church fire.⁶ Seri and Vilum II had seven children, all born on Ostregaard. The oldest two, it is believed, were girls who died at birth or early infancy. After these were Maren, Vilum III, Lars, Guttorm, and Anna Serena, in the order given.

Vilum Vilumson Erland II was a man of light complexion and of slight build, being only about 5'5" in height. He was neat and clean in his habits. There was a dam and a flour mill on his farm on Erland Creek, and although it was quite a ways from the house, he had to make many trips back and forth, frequently in the dark. But no matter how muddy he got he always managed to come home clean. Seri was said to be "social and nice". She did not have much to say and was peaceable to everyone.

In the latter part of 1846 Vilum Vilumson Erland II died and was buried at Skjold Kirke. Seri remarried a widower, a fine man, named John Hundanes. He was a husmann from the gaard Hundsness, already described, and they went to live there, Seri receiving folga from Erland. Folga is a Norwegian custom which may be briefly explained as follows: When the farm passes to the oldest son the parents may reserve a little land (folgastyke) and build a little house thereon (folgahus) in which to live. When they die the land reverts to the son. If the farm has not passed by inheritance but the husband dies and someone else takes over the operation of the farm, the wife continues to receive ⁷one-half(?) of the return from the place even if she should move away. Sometimes there are several folgahus on one farm. Each occupant gets a certain amount from the place and if another folgahus is added, it is the man who owns the place who gets less.

Seri died in 1863 on Hundsnes but was brought back to the cemetery in Skjold for burial.

¹Brindla was married to a man named Jonas.

²Borgina is the same as Borgøy.

³See third paragraph following for explanation.

⁴Our "William".

⁵"II" to distinguish him from others of the same name in the history.

⁶The present Skjold Church dates from 1890 as does also the surrounding village.

⁷This is true even if she emigrates to another country.

The third child of Guttorm Egdal and Maren Musland was another daughter, Eli (pronounced ee lee), born Oct. 29, 1784. Eli Erland married Erik Nelson Tveit who was from western Tveit,¹ Skjold parish. Tveit was located near the northwest corner of the Grindefjord quite a way up the mountain north of the main road running from Skjold village to Haugesund. Erik had a brother, Ole, who had a Stampe at a farm place called Grinde near the fjord and the gaard Aursland. This place was where a river ran down from a lake. Ole used the river to operate the Stampe, a machine which worked up and down like a stamping mill and washed flannels in water heated for the purpose.²

Eli Erland and her husband, Erik Nelson Tveit, set up housekeeping on Aursland, a farm on the northwest tip of the Grindefjord about an English mile south of Tveit. Although Aursland itself is hidden among the trees, an excellent view of the western part of the fjord can be obtained by the present day visitor from a high promontory jutting into the water just opposite the farm. During my visit in 1934 I went out to this point and shall not soon forget the scene presented. Looking southward a group of small islands appear about one mile away, raising themselves gently from the quiet water. The nearer of these are called the Aurslandsøyne. To the right the land slopes gently up from the fjord, and it is so well forested that the fields, white houses, and red tile roofs of Aursland and its neighbors are only occasionally visible. Beyond the long slope in the direction of the North Sea, a mountain ridge thrusts itself protectingly upward. The whole scene is one of interest and real beauty, especially if viewed in the sunshine of early morning.

Rygh³ gives us no origin for the name, Aursland, but a Norwegian school teacher living on the farm in 1934 volunteered the following:

"In the old Norse dialect there was a word 'eyrir', the Latin 'Aureus' or silver. This meant (1) an amount of silver (weight) and (2) a tax on land. Now it is possible that Aursland is related to this word and the meaning would then be 'the land that is taxed one eyrir. Another word in present Norwegian dialect is 'aur' which means sand or gravel, and the genitive 's' makes it 'aurs'. 'Aursland' would then mean 'the land built of "aur", and this would be a very good meaning inasmuch as the land on Aursland is sandy."

The name was spelled Ørisland in 1602 and in 1723; in 1884 a letter from our cousin Goude is signed "G. Oritzland", and in recent years American cousins have written the name Orsland.

In the early 1800s there was only one house on Aursland, standing northeast of the house now⁴ located about 330 meters from the main road and the second house up the hill from the fjord. It was here that Eli and Erik probably lived at first. Around 1820 a new house⁵ was built to the southwest using some of the old walls. This was about 20 feet east to west and 24 feet north to south. There were three rooms, two small ones on the north side and a large one occupying more than one half of the house on the south. This was probably the main living room, dining room and kitchen. The northwest room had a stone floor which remains as part of the entryway in the present house. The old dining room was also incorporated when the present house, which has an addition to the north, was built about 1870. At that time the ceiling was raised about 10 inches and the floor raised to allow for a basement.

¹"Twed" in 1723. There were two farms, upper and lower, according to one cousin.

²Erik and Ole had first cousins living on Frakkagjerd, which was not far to the southwest in Awaldnes parish. Children of these cousins came to America and knew descendants of Erik Nelson Tveit.

³Norske Gaardnavne.

⁴1934

⁵An old inhabitant of Aursland has stated that this was built by one of two brothers who had the place. Whether Erik had a brother on Aursland, or just what the situation was is not known. There were at least two farmers on Aursland.

To the east of the house and about 10 and 30 feet therefrom respectively were two rowan (sorbus aucoparia) trees, no longer standing. Just beyond these to the north and paralleling the present road an old road ran down the hill to the main road and the fjord. This was bordered with stone walls, now in ruins. West of the house on the north about 45 feet was a spring; while on the west to the south about 20 feet was a potato cellar.¹ North of the house 75 feet (where the present barn stands) was the old barn, built on the site of a still older stable. From existing evidence it must have been about 5 by 7 metres in dimension. About 50 feet northwest was a second spring.² Most of the land on the gaard lay to the east and southeast. Some of this is very stony, which bears out a statement that "while Aursland was considered a good farm, the land was too poor for raising good crops."

Erik and Eli Aursland had nine children, two of which were deceased in infancy. These were probably the oldest, or among the oldest. Nels was the oldest to reach maturity. Following were Inga(1808), Gut-torm, Maren, Erik, Eli Sirine, and Anna Martha (born in 1830 when Eli was nearly 46 years old).

Erik, the father, was a "quiet, good man" who took part in church services as clerk of the meeting. "From father to son they were ministers", said an old cousin in speaking of Erik and his "literary" abilities. And it seems quite probable that the children received a little better than average education as a result. Erik was also a carpenter and it was the pursuit of this occupation that brought about his death. He was shingling a barn and fell and hurt his side and leg. An infection set in and he died, apparently between the years of 1849 and 1852. The main funeral services were held at the house and were attended by all the friends and relatives. Afterward four men carried the body down to the fjord on their shoulders and placed it in a boat. The close relatives followed and, entering other boats, formed a procession for the trip to the Skjold graveyard. This was a row of about six and one half miles(English) out past the Aurslandsoyni Islands and along the full length of the Grindefjord into the northern end of the Skjoldafjord proper.

It is not certain just where Eli lived after Erik's death. Four of her children had gone to America by 1849 and the two oldest girls were married and had homes of their own. Nels, the oldest son, had the odelret (right to the farm) but the farm passed to a man named Romsaland before Eli came to America in 1855. We are told that she had a house on a place of her own but that it burned down and that Nels helped her rebuild it. There is no evidence that it was a folgahus on Aursland. After coming to America Eli wrote back to Romsaland for the folga to which she was entitled but he never gave her any satisfaction. In the early days it cost \$1.00 to send a letter from Illinois to Norway.

Eli was adventuresome and wanted to come to America even though she was then more than 70 years old. Perhaps she foresaw the possibility of getting all her children on the same side of the great barrier, the Atlantic, and realized that America afforded by far the greater opportunities for them. She was "well educated and a great reader", as indicated by some of the characterizing phrases which tradition has left us: "cultivated", "refined", "unusual", and "a marvel in the study and interpretation of the Bible".³ So with her adventurous spirit and education it is not too surprising that she set about persuading the family of her daughter, Maren Stakkerstad, to take her to America. Maren and her husband did not want to come as they had a nice home in Norway and were discouraged about the prospects in America. But Eli prevailed and in 1855 they sailed for the United States.

¹There is an old, apple tree stump just south of this cellar now but it²probably does not date back to the period 1810 to 1850.

There was also an old fire house(wood house) here but its age cannot be determined.

³Phrases received through Jeannette Mather Lord. They should be taken comparatively for her generation and background.

Although Eli Aursland had "ship's fever" on the trip, she arrived safely and took up residence with her children in Illinois. She spent a great deal of time with her daughter Sarah on the old Storesund place¹ and with the Sampsons (Maren), but during Anna Martha's illness lived with her on Willow Farm. Here she had her own room furnished with lovely old furniture. In it she kept her chest bearing her name and many fine treasures such as a heart-shaped box like a snuff box with a golden crown², some silver spoons, and so on.

Eli Aursland or Ellen Erickson as she was called in America--was very much interested in young people and what they did for entertainment in the evenings. She invited them to her room. One night she made them dance. She told young Knute Sampson that he must never try to dance in public as he was too clumsy. But she was broadminded and encouraged the young folks in most of their undertakings. She was popular, too, with children and they clamored for their turn to sleep with her. When she went to visit her son Tom she would gather little Ellen up in her skirts and give her candy -- peppermint was the kind usually provided. Back in Norway she had always kept a jar of sweet cakes in her large cupboard and Ole Sevig never went there but what she gave him one.

Ellen's brother, Osmund Meling, became interested in the "Mormon" religion, that is, in the Reorganized Church, which did not practice polygamy and was distinct from the Utah Mormons. (See Chapter XIX for full discussion). Meling would come over and read to Ellen and convinced her into believing "Mormon". Her children were all opposed to her joining except Tom who gave his famous counsel:-

"Well, Mother, if you are going to be baptized, do it in the name of God."

(See also Chapter XIII) So Ellen decided to become "Mormon" and when they had baptismal services one Sunday at the Fox River (or at a pond on School Section) she was immersed three times. A cold wind³ came up during her ride home in the wagon and Ellen became so cold that her teeth chattered and since she was at least 76 years old⁴ it is remarkable that there were no more lasting ill-effects. The fact tends to confirm the traditional description of her person: "She was nice looking and straight and strong like a young girl".

Anna Martha died in 1864 and Ellen went to live with the Sampsons. It was her custom while here, although then 80 years old, to walk the three miles to church. According to a neighbor woman, Ellen stopped on her walk home one Sunday evening to kneel and pray. This was in a slough where the dampness from ground and dew caused her to catch cold. She wasn't in bed so very long before she died on Aug. 8, 1865⁵. Burial was in School Section and the Sloop, Thomas Hougas, was the pastor⁶. The grave is marked by a low, dark stone.

Ellen's brother, Osmund Guttormson Musland, was the fourth and last child, and the only son born to Guttorm and Maren Ikdal⁷. He grew

¹These localities and names will become more familiar in later chapters dealing with our first emigration to America and with the lives of Eli's children.

²Now in possession of the Christian family. The chest went to Martha Sampson.

³According to one account immersion was through a hole in the ice but this is doubtful for one so advanced in age.

⁴The church records are fragmentary for these years and there is no official record of the baptism known to be extant.

⁵There was a dispute over her age and the date, Jul. 3, 1864 has been a possibility. Jeannette Mather Lord believes this date correct.

⁶The traditional account gives "Tom Hoge" and says that he was related to the family. The name "Sloop" is applied to the descendants of those on the first immigrant ship from Norway to America -- in modern times, the Sloop, "Restoration", of 1825.

⁷The reader should remember that for the first three generations, and to some extent for the fourth generation, our knowledge of births usually covers only those who reached maturity. Examination of Norwegian parish records might disclose other children deceased in infancy.

up on Erland and around 1817 married Bertha Mattiasdatter Sorvaag (Sarovog) of Hiljesogn.¹ "Sorvaag" implies a harbor but also refers to a farm or farm place on that harbor. A granddaughter who visited the area about 85 years later reported that the Sorvaags were highly respected and were well educated and quite well-to-do. One of them was a professor.

Osmund, being the only son, inherited the home place of Heimme-gaard, Erland, with its cattle and appurtenances, and was quite well-to-do at first. He and Bertha employed a servant by the name of Bergethe Marie Cederberg, who gradually came to be treated as one of the family. Osmund did not get along well with his parents however, and after the birth of the four oldest children (Maren, Erik, Guttorm, and Osmund), he sold out and bought a farm on the gaard Meling. Meling was one of the three gaards on an island, Talgo, located in the Boknfjord only about 5 English miles northeast of Stavanger and about 24 miles south of Erland. Talgo is a much smaller island than its neighbors: Renne-soen, Finnøen, and Fogn on the west, north and east respectively, and is flat when compared to most Norwegian islands. Besides Meling, the other two gaards on Talgo were Gaard with eight to ten farms, and Østbo with four or more. The harbor on the south side of the island is called Melingsvaagen.

Osmund's next four children; Mattias, Mattias, Ann, and a third Mattias, were born on Meling in the period 1831 to 1837. The first two Mattiases died in infancy. On July 3, 1837, Osmund Meling joined the first exodus of Norwegians to America to settle after the Sloopers of 1825. He thus became the first member of the Ikdal Family to emigrate to America, sharing the honor with his nephew, Guttorm Erikson Aursland (see above), who came over with him. These two men were the first of 3000 Ikdal descendants to break the ties of the homeland and seek a better life in the new land, first discovered by their Viking ancestors more than 800 years before.² However the story of the Melings' trip to America and their subsequent adventures belong in the next chapter which is concerned with our family's establishment here.

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As we mentioned in Chapter I, Martha Egdal and Lars Segveson (Kaarhus) Sandvik had four children: Segve, Seri, Osmund, and Eli (ee'lee).

Segve, the oldest, inherited the rich farm Sandvik, which we have already described. He married Bertha Serina Sjursdatter Hundsnes, probably in her own parish, Tysvaer. It has not come down to us whether she was related to the Hundsnes families already mentioned but there is a strong possibility. We do not know that she and Segve were cousins and so perhaps her mother, Seri Sandvik, was a sister of Segve's father, Lars. Bertha was born in January 1805.

Segve and Bertha lived in a very large house, reputed to be the largest house in Nerstrand parish. It was probably built by Segve after his marriage. This big frame structure faced south with the fjord just to the west. The dining room was "as large as two American bedrooms." There was a large living room and two other rooms. Also downstairs were two halls, two bedrooms, and a kitchen. Upstairs was a room where twenty children went to school. They all sat at a long table, ten on each side. Yet there was still plenty of room for a bed on each side of the table. Across the hall, which was big enough for a kitchen, was another room, also big enough for twenty children and two beds. There were two more bedrooms upstairs--one on the east and one on the

¹In the later 1800's there were two brothers, Barney and Hallech Hil-yason, located around Leland, Illinois. Their real name was Sorvaag and they were related to Mathias Sawyer but apparently, according to tradition, not to Bertha in spite of the similarity in names. One cousin thought Bertha was from Fruestad. Two others thought Sorvaag was in Tysvaer. There is a Sorvaag in Fjordesfjorden Sogn.

²In Chapter XV Jeannette Mather Lord records the tradition that Gut-torm's brother Erik was the first to come.

west. The dimensions of the house were about 28 ft. by 48 ft. according to the estimate of another cousin, a grandson who later built houses in Norway and said it contained a lot of rooms both up and down. The measurements may not seem startling to American cousins, yet in this western area of small houses, the house on Sandvik must have appeared mammoth.

Apparently the house never seemed very empty in spite of its dimensions, for not only were there eight children but there was hired help as well. Segve's children were Anna Martha, Lars, Osmund, Seri, Lars (again), Karen Serine, Syvert, and Mette Margrethe. They were all born and raised on Sandvik.

Segve died around 1872 and was buried in Nerstrands kirkegaard. After his death Bertha Serena lived in a little folgahus built for her on Løning (or Klovning¹), a farm in Tysvaer, which Sigve (or Johannes Lindanger¹) had owned and on which their son Syvert also went to live. When Syvert lost out on Klovning-Løning¹ she must have returned with him to Sandvik for we next hear of her living in a large folgahus² on Sandvik with Syvert. Her pastime in old age, as it had been in middle life, was knitting stockings. Up through her 70s and 80s and even into her 90s she remained very active and nimble on her feet. She was always just as interested in what was going on as anyone. When she was about 92 or 93 she broke her hip and although she was a small woman and her hip knitted so that she could stand, she was never able to walk again. She died on Sandvik in July of 1902 at the age of 97 years and 6 months, having been a widow for 30 years. There were 111 people at the funeral and 105 of them were related to her.

Seri Larsdatter Sandvik, sister of Segve, married Ole Lindanger (properly pronounced li'ñong). Lindanger was considered a good rich farm in about the same category as Sandvik and Hundsnes. It also had a lot of timber but did not front on a fjord. It raised hay, oats, barley, and vegetables. The Lindanger people were considered very nice and the sort of people you could always pick out in a crowd³, chin-up and proud without being offensive about it. The gaard is located in southern Skjold about two miles south of Ikdal, just below the Skjoldastraumen and near the east edge of the fjord. On the southeast it is only about a mile to the Yrkefjord. It is said that there were three farms on Lindanger.

Ole and Seri Lindanger had one child, Gudmund, and were expecting a second when death stepped in to claim the young husband. He had owned a freight boat in partnership with Seri's brother, Osmund Larson Sandvik. The boat sank and both men were drowned. This double tragedy, involving both husband and brother, was a sorrow that must have rested heavily on the young mother-to-be. The baby, a girl, was given the name of Olena by Seri in memory of the father which she would never see.

Seri later remarried on Lindanger. Her second husband was Ole's brother, Johannes Lindanger, a broad-shouldered, heavy-set man of medium height. They also lived on Lindanger and here their children: Maren, Karena, Lars, Martha Helene, Serine (Seri), Agnete, and Gudmund were born. This completed a family of eight children.

When the oldest son Gudmund became of age, he inherited the farm. When he died, a young bachelor, the farm went to his sister Olena and it became necessary for Johannes and Seri to buy a farm of their own. They purchased Espevik, but Olena liked Espevik and so she and her stepfather traded farms. Seri and Johannes thus continued to live on Lindanger for the rest of their lives. (See Chapter XXIV for a graph of these farm transfers).

Johannes owned three farms: Lindanger, Llovning-Løning (in Tysvaer), and Espevik and he and Seri were fairly well situated. None of

¹These differences will be given analysis in Chapter XXV.

²Not to be confused with the big house recently described.

³Statements of praise such as this are usually not incorporated in this history unless made by relatively disinterested parties, who are not descendants; or unless corroborated by other evidence, given voluntarily.

the children ever had to work out and only one learned a trade. Seri was a capable manager of her home and in company was always respectfully listened to. When their son Lars inherited Lindanger, Johannes and Seri took a folgastyke on which they built a nice folgahus. They kept two cows. Their daughter Agnete was living with them here when they passed to their reward.

Osmund Larson Sandvik, brother of Seri, was the third child born to Lars and Martha Sandvik. As stated before, he owned a freight boat in partnership with Ole Lindanger and was drowned with him when the boat sank. Osmund had not yet married.

Eli Larsdatter Sandvik was the youngest child of Lars and Martha Sandvik. Born on Sandvik in 1810 she lived at home until her marriage about the early 1830s to Gudmund Torgerson Lindanger. She was married at Nerstrand Church and the wedding reception was at her home. One of the wedding customs of the time was that of ransoming the bride. When she went to carry a bowl of rice mush or "rice grøt" in to the guests someone would try to steal her. The groom would have to pay a ransom to get her back in order to have her as a partner at this meal. He usually used brandy or something similar as a ransom. (See Chapter XXXII)

Gudmund Torgerson Lindanger was the son of Torger Gudmundson Lindanger¹, and was a cousin of the father of his brothers-in-law, Ole and Johannes Lindanger. Torger bought a farm at Velde in Vats Parish for Gudmund and it was on Velde that Eli and her husband set up housekeeping. To this founding of the house of Velde, Gudmund contributed some of the pride of the house of Lindanger. He was not a large man but he carried himself very erect and was quite "smart looking", and sometimes cocky in his younger days. However this pride did not affect his general character and industry as it is said that he had more pep than even his son Osmund. (See Chapter XXXII)

Velde was in Vats parish to the northeast of Sandvik. To go to Velde from Sandvik one went first by boat northward along the Skjoldafjorden to Lindanger, then by land southeastward to Yrke, and then by boat again northeast through the Yrkefjord and north to Velde. There were two gaards on Velde, with their buildings close together, and four husmannplass. Gudmund and Eli lived on Nedre Velde. There was a nice river on one side of the farm, flowing down from a mountain, and another river on the opposite side. The two met below the farm and flowed into the Vatsvandet, a long body of water to the north of the Vats Fjord. Velde supported 14 cows, 40 sheep, 1 horse, and a hog. There were also not many rocks and the soil was extra good so that there were good crops of potatoes, oats, and barley.

Gudmund built a new house on Velde at about the time of his marriage (about 1830(?)). It was made of logs but had a frame siding. Here eight children were born -- Sigrid, Marthe Serine, Laurentje, Torger, Osmund, Anne Karine, Eli Serine, and Lars. Before the youngest children were fully grown Gudmund died (in 1854) from blood poisoning received from an infection in an axe cut on his knee. He was only 47. Burial was in the Vats graveyard on Kaarhus, where later the Vats church was built.

Eli remarried a man by the name of Faltin Faltinson Elleflot. In old writings this was Valentin Valentinson, a name of Dutch origin, and it is said that people of Dutch and German ancestry were not uncommon in this part of Norway. Elleflot was a gaard in Skjold located at the junction of the road from Vats church and the road from Ølen, northeast of Skjold kirke. However Faltin and Eli lived on Velde after their marriage. Faltin used to tend sheep north of the Lake of Røldal, which lies in a very mountainous area many miles northeast of Skjold. One of Eli's grandsons, Faltin Velde, used to help him. The scenery in the vicinity is one of almost indescribable grandeur (and I will long remember it). Here are great gorges such as the Seljestad, where the precipices of grey rock tower three to four thousand ft. on either side.

¹It is known that Torger had at least one other child, a daughter. Torger's lineage has been traced back through eleven generations to Arnbjorn, 1380; and, on another line, to Olav Sheftun Hjelmaland, 1530. See Mrs. Gudmund Velde, Granite Falls, Minnesota.

On the heights there are rivers and lakes, snowfields and glaciers, and miles and miles of treeless, rolling fjells, so bleak and wild and lonely that a stranger cannot pass through without feeling some trepidation. In contrast, the Lake of Røldal itself is of surprising beauty. The blueness of its waters is augmented by the shadows of its sheer 2000-foot walls until it has become a midnight blue. Even at mid-day under a near-cloudless sky the blue of the lake is startling.

Eli Velde was a good homemaker and a very good Christian, highly esteemed and long remembered by the whole parish of Vats. She was quite pious and gave her children a deep religious training. Her admonishment to a grandson is probably typical of this: "Now Gudmund, don't forget your Savior. Pray every night." She spent her time spinning, sewing, weaving and reading, being especially fond of the latter. She had a fine apple orchard and lots of berries and her grandchildren loved to go to her house to get fruit. Frequently she gave them sugar to further delight their hearts.

The Ladies Aid came into this part of Norway about 1840 and Eli became president of the society in Vats parish. The ladies would take their spinning wheels and spin all day or knit stockings and sweaters, although in later years they only sewed. One custom was that if someone started to talk too much they would all start to sing. We assume there was a great deal of singing.

Eli was a "handsome" woman, rather short and somewhat chunky although she was reported to be very slender when young. She wore the traditional hovaplug.¹

In their later years Faltin and Eli moved to Elleflot, Faltin's home farm, and lived on a part of it. Eli continued to receive folga from Velde. Sometime prior to her death she lost her eyesight and hearing and became so feeble that she had to remain in bed. When she died at the age of 96, she was interred in Vats graveyard. Her son, Osmund, put up a granite monument when he returned from America on a visit in 1914.

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As outlined in Chapter I, Johannes Ikdal (Egdal) had two children within our knowledge -- Jacob and Seri.

Jacob Ikdal was a bachelor for some time. He was fairly tall, straight in carriage, and had dark hair. Jacob was fond of hunting and caught some young foxes. These he took home and penned them in a vegetable cellar. This was round and like a cistern, the top being about five feet above ground and the potatoes, etc. were taken out by means of a ladder lowered from the top. Jacob kept the foxes until they were grown and then killed them and sold the hides. Even though a bachelor he usually got invited to all the weddings as did his cousin, Ole Sevig, so the two became well acquainted.

Jacob was married sometime prior to Gamle Martha's funeral in 1860 or 1861. His wife came from the northern part of Skjoldastrauen and was spoken of as a splendid woman. She had brothers Jacob and Erik. Jacob Ikdal and his wife lived on Ikdal, which Jacob inherited as the oldest child of his father. Jacob had at least two sons, one of whom, Johannes, taught school near Stavanger, south of Skjold. One of the sons died in the early 1930s.

Jacob's sister Seri married a man from Straatveit when she was rather young. Straatveit was in Vats.

Inasmuch as we have no further information concerning the Johannes Ikdal descendants, this will conclude our story of this 3rd branch of the family.

¹ Eli's last picture is in the possession of Mrs. Jacob Nasheim.

CHAPTER III

In which we discuss our first immigration from Norway and get the family safely settled, though not very prosperously, in America

In any American family whenever voice is given to the natural curiosity about ancestry, the primary interest is usually in the questions: which of our ancestors came over first? When was it? why did they come? where did they land? why did they settle where they did instead of some other place?

We have already said that Osmund Guttormson Meling and family and Guttorm Erikson Aursland¹ were the first of the 2700 Ikdals to come to America.^{1a} They came in the summer of 1837 on the ship "Enighedden". Since this ship is of historical importance, the general reasons for their coming have been set down in books of history. Let us review them briefly.

Every good Norwegian-American knows that although the Norwegians discovered America first (876 A.D.)² and settled America first (986 A.D.)³ it was not until the arrival of the Sloopers in 1825 that Norwegians established themselves permanently in America. However many Norwegian-Americans do not know that there was no further immigration of importance after 1825 until the period 1836-37, when four boat loads of newcomers from Norway really gave the impetus to the immigration (continuous after 1840) responsible for the several million people of Norwegian birth or descent living in America today. Since the Norwegians are recognized as one of our most important national groups⁴, it is not surprising that historians have devoted attention to the four boats of 1836-37 as well as to the arrival of the small 38 ton⁵ sloop "Restauration" with its 53 passengers in 1825. To quote from Cadbury:⁶

"There will always be a special interest in the first groups of Norwegians that came as immigrants to America in the third and fourth decades of the 19th. century. The premier place is held by the brave band of 52⁷, counting crew and children, who came on the sloop "Restaurationen" in 1825. Next to them the principal large contingents were those who came nearly a dozen years later in four vessels, the Kohler brigs "Norden" and "Den Norske Klippe" in 1836 and the barks "Aegir" and "Enighedden" in the following year.

"In size and influence no other group of immigrants in the first generation of Norwegian Immigration can compare with the 343 passengers of these four ships that constituted the exodus of 1836 and 1837".

The principal reason for this exodus was undoubtedly economic.

¹This is our family's Paul Bunyan. In America he was known as "Big Tom" Erickson. ^{1a}See also the first-to-come tradition in Chap. XV.

²Gunnbjørn, 876 A.D.; Ari Marson, 983; Bjarni Herjulfson, 986; Leif Erikson, 1000; Olaf M. Norlie, History of the Norwegian People in America, Chapter 3 (Minneapolis, Minn., 1925); also 96, 97.

³Erik the Red, 986 A.D. Ibid., 53. The stories of these early Viking voyages are probably unsurpassed in history for imagination-stirring adventure.

⁴For a discussion of the Norwegians' contributions to the development of America, culturally, professionally, etc., see Ibid., especially 441 ff.

⁵Theodore C. Blegen, Norwegian Migration to America 1825-1860, (Northfield, Minn., 1931) 42, n. 47.

⁶Henry J. Cadbury, "Four Immigrant Shiploads of 1836 and 1837", in Studies and Records, 2:20ff.

⁷One child was born enroute, making 53

Anderson says¹: "While religious persecution drove the sloop people to America and while dissatisfaction with the social and political conditions in Norway caused many to renounce the land of their fathers, still we must not forget that the hope of securing better opportunities than the parent soil could offer, was a most potent cause of emigration." In America there was land -- land for a land-starved people who knew its "dignity and worth" as well as its economic value. "The land was there, open, fertile, cheap, inviting-- a magnet drawing ... immigrants westward with irresistible force."²

The basic lack of tillable land in Norway was emphasized by other factors in the 1830s. Andreas Sandsberg, writing in 1831 to his brother Gudmund in America, describes the hard times in Norway in 1831 and again in 1836, when he gives important contemporary information concerning the 1836-37 migration. "A considerable number of people are now getting ready to go to America from the Amt [that is, Stavanger Amt.]" he writes. "A pressing and general lack of money entering into every branch of industry, stops, or at least hampers business and makes it difficult for many people to earn the necessities of life. While this is the case on this side of the Atlantic there is hope of abundance on the other, and this, I take it, is the chief cause of this growing disposition to emigrate."³

However the economic factor alone might not have brought about the emigration to America if there had not been further reasons. The first of these was, of course, the presence of the Sloopers, who had come to America under Quaker leadership in 1825. Very many of these people were from farms⁴ only four to eight miles to the south of Erland and Aursland and in the same district -- Skjold. They had been living in America for eleven years and were now commencing to see the road to success. The second reason was the letters from America, most of which were joyful and optimistic and recommended emigration.⁵ Among these the letters of Gjert Gregorionson Hovland were particularly important as they were "transcribed in hundreds of copies and passed from house to house and from parish to parish". Hovland was "loud in his praises of American laws, equality, and liberty, as compared with the extortions of the official aristocracy in Norway. He advised all who were able to emigrate to America, arguing that the Creator had not prohibited man from locating in what part of the world he pleased."⁶

But the third and culminating reason for the emigration of 1836-37 was the arrival in Norway of the emigrant Quaker, Knud Anderson Slogvig⁷, who came home to get married. Here was a man who had spent five years in the New World and his return to Skjold District created the greatest excitement. People traveled from far and near to hear him and ask questions about America. It made him the hero of the day and he later became the actual leader of the exodus.⁸ From him Norway received its first real taste of America fever.⁹ And if people from as far away as Bergen Stift began to talk of America it is not surprising that a former neighbor such as Osmund Meling, and the son of a former neighbor, Guttorm Aursland, should be badly bitten with the bug to go to America.

We do not know which was the principal promoter of our family's

¹Rasmus B. Anderson, The First Chapter of Norwegian Immigration (1821-1840) Its Causes and Results, (Madison, Wisconsin, 1906), 136.

²Blegen, op. cit., 4. ³Anderson, 135-136.

⁴In Tysvaer parish. Kleng Pearson was also from Tysvaer.

⁵Norlie, op. cit., 137.

⁶Anderson, op. cit., 81-82. Hovlands famous and interesting letter of Apr. 22, 1835 is analyzed in some detail by Blegen, op. cit., 63-70.

⁷Blegen (op. cit., 75) shows that there were both Quaker teachers and sympathizers among the emigrants of 1836 but so far there is no evidence to show direct Quaker influence among the Engheden passengers.

⁸Cadbury, loc cit., 23. ⁹Ibid., 147. Excepting Slogvig's time in America which is taken from Blegen, op. cit., 70.

first getting started in America. It would seem most logical to suppose that Osmund decided to go and Guttorm, hearing of it, and being at the young and adventurous age of 23,¹ secured permission to go along with his Uncle. On the other hand, judging from the enterprise and ability that Guttorm later displayed in America, we should not be surprised if he had a very active part in persuading his uncle and aunt to go. Also, he lived much closer to Knud Slogvig than Osmund, who had nearly a 30-mile boat trip across the open Boknfjord (and possibly a much more round-about method of traveling) as well as family obligations, to keep him from visiting Slogvig.

Both Guttorm Aursland and Osmund Meling, had more personal economic reasons for considering America than we have yet mentioned. Guttorm was the second son in his family and consequently, under the Norwegian law of primogeniture, did not inherit his father's farm, the odelret of which went to Nels. Capital to purchase a farm was scarce and even if obtainable could frequently not be applied to advantage due to the heavy delinquent obligations on the state's benefited lands in Stavanger Amt.² Osmund owned his gaard on Talgo but the taxes in Stavanger Amt had been particularly heavy for years and there was no relief in sight.³ It is safe to say that his ear was well-tuned to the favorable reports of the comparatively lighter land taxes prevailing in the United States. He may have also been bothered by interest payments as a contemporary newspaper in speaking of the 1836 emigrants states that "nearly all (of the gaard-owners) were so burdened with interest and other payments that their income did not come up to their expenses." A traditional source says that the rich people or barons had money loaned out on farms and that these loans might last for generations. Generally speaking people could only pay interest on these loans.

At any rate we know that the last days of June, 1837, found this little group of our forefathers preparing to go to Stavanger to take the ship that was to carry them to that wonderful land -- America. Counting everyone there were ten people in the Meling party. There were Osmund, Bertha, Maren, Erik, Guttorm (Osmund's son), Osmund (Osmund's son), Ann, Mattias (the baby)⁴, Bergethe Marie Cederberg (servant), and Guttorm Aursland. Maren was just past 18, Erik was 12, Guttorm was 11, Osmund almost 6, Anne exactly 3⁵, and baby Mattias was only 1. We can imagine the children's excitement. This was to be no mere excursion over to Fogn or even to Stavanger. This was to be THE GRAND ADVENTURE. They were going to get on a big boat and sail way out over the ocean and sail and sail for oh, ever so many days and maybe there would be storms and whales; and then there would be a land where the people spoke words you couldn't understand, and wouldn't that be funny? And then there were Indians, and

But wonders and fears may not have been entirely confined to the children, since the historians tell us as a sober truth that "in those days many plain people in Norway believed that the emigrants ran the risk of being sold into slavery to the Turks, of being killed by the Indians, or of being devoured by horrible monsters of sea and land"⁶ In fact the most famous of the 1836-37 immigrants, Ole Rynning, in 1838 devoted two of the thirteen chapters of his "Truthful Account of America" toward the allayment of such fears. And so, did not Bertha, as she looked at the baby at her breast and at Maren trying to keep the older children out of mischief, sometimes ask herself: "Is it safe for the children? Are we doing the best thing for them?"

But probably the most difficult thing for the older folks in the party, as well as for the many cousins who were to follow in other ships down through the years, was the taking leave of home and friends.

¹In 1836. This is following some historians assertions that the two ships sailing in 1837 carried those who could not be accomodated in 1836. See Norlie, 137, and Anderson, 196.

²Blegen, op.cit. 74.

³Blegen, op.cit. 74.

⁴The third child to bear that name.

⁵Her birthday was July 4, probably the day after sailing.

⁶Anderson, op.cit., 211.

A dialect poet sings:

"Farewell, now, O valley of Seljord; farewell to church, and woods and home. Farewell to parson and parish clerk, to kith and kin, and the lovely gardens of home. Would to God this were undone! For the old home lies there grieving. Turn about, hasten, hasten away!"¹

"A noted Norwegian poet understood that the sharpest wrench came in parting from the everyday home surroundings, and he causes the emigrant woman, Kari, to sing:

"Farewell, my old spinning wheel. How I shall miss you: the thought of leaving you breaks the heart in my breast.

No more in the evenings shall we sit by the fireside, old friend of mine, and gossip together.

Ah, all that I see has roots in my heart. And now they are torn out, do you wonder it bleeds!"²

And did not the emigrants realize, deep down in their hearts, that parting from friends, country, and parents was like a death -- that never again would they see the sights and hear the sounds that meant so much to them.

The ship that brought these first Ikdal immigrants to America was called the "Enigheden" (Unity), as we have mentioned. Unfortunately we do not know its exact size as the New York Customs House lists³ are incomplete. Its companion ships, the brigs "Norden" and "Den Norske Klippe" are given as 290 and 150 tons respectively and the bark "Aegir" as 21 (?) tons. They carried 110, 57, and 84 passengers respectively and if the 91 people⁴ on the "Enigheden" were loaded in the same proportions to tonnage, it must have been a boat of about 240 tons.⁵ It is sometimes referred to as a "bark" but the customs lists show it as a "brig". A bark is a three masted vessel having the foremast and mainmast square-rigged, and the mizzenmast fore-and-aft rigged. A brig is a two masted, square-rigged vessel.

The "Enigheden" came from Egersund, a town a short distance south of Stavanger, with a few emigrants on board and then stopped at Stavanger for its main load. Most of the people were from Stavanger and such surrounding districts as Hjelmeland, Haesbye, Aardal, Ryfylke, and Skjold.⁶ The sailing date is given as July 1 by Blegen,⁷ who cites a report in Stavanger Adressavis, July 7, 1837, and as July 3 or 4 by Cadbury.⁸ The latter refers to (1) a "marine notice published in the United States Gazette Sept. 16, 1837, which gives the following: New York, Sept. 15, Ar. Norwegian barque, Enigheden, Pederson, Norway, 73 days"; and (2) the New York Customs House lists which show the Date of Manifest as Sept. 14, 1837.

"Our" first voyage to America is full of interest, especially when judged by today's standards of ocean liner travel. How 91 people managed to live for more than six weeks on a little sailing boat of only 240 tons, -- where probably everyone slept in the same room, took turns cooking at a common fire, and ate off his own lap, -- is something to

¹The poet is Jørund Telnes of Telemarken. Quoted in Blegen, op.cit., 309.

²Taken from Wergeland's "Fjeldstuen". Quoted in Blegen, op.cit., 309-10.

³Quoted by Cadbury, loc.cit.

⁴This figure is sometimes given as 93 or as 90 (Blegen, op.cit., p. 87). I am following the custom lists shown by Cadbury.

⁵My own estimate. But allowing 219 tons for the Aegir, each of the three boats carried a number of passengers equal to 38% of their tonnage. This suggests that the captains had loaded to capacity and were conforming to American law, having profited by the unhappy experience of the Sloop in 1825. This law permitted only two passengers to each five tons. (Blegen, op.cit., p. 51)

⁶Blegen, op.cit., 87. ⁷Loc.cit.

⁸Op.cit. Actually only the date of arrival and the length of the voyage are given.

wonder about. And in addition to all this, there were such things as homesickness, seasickness, and storms.

That they experienced at least one storm seems certain from several stories in our family traditions. One account states that "Grandfather and Grandmother Thomason¹ (Meling) came to America in 1837 ... after being 13 weeks on the water. They never expected to see land because of the storms. They were driven back, They would get a few miles ahead, and then they would be driven back again."² How severe were the storms we do not know but judging from one of my own experiences in the mid-Atlantic in July, they must have been bad enough to recount many times. I was on a freight boat of 10,000 tons, 60 feet wide and nearly 500 feet long and we had two storms within the space of about 12 days bad enough to put the midship deck awash, roll the ship on her beam ends, and pitch the screw and rudder clear out of the water into the open air at sickening intervals. The "b-r-r-oom" of the waves hitting the sides of the boat were deafening. Just imagine what our forefathers experienced herded together in the hold of a boat only 1/40th. the size of this one. And they were not seasoned sailors or Viking rovers either, mind you, -- only peaceful farmers. But I think there is no doubt that they had the Viking courage.³

Seasick! Of course they were seasick! There was only one seaman and the remaining 90 passengers were farmers except for an artist, a smith, a shoemaker, two glaziers, and a carpenter.⁴ In an account of the voyage of the companion ship "Aegir" the seasick farmers were "restored to health through the experienced aid of the skipper, who acted as physician for them though he possessed no 'Doctor's cap'. With the seasickness all worries seemed to disappear. Bønder who never before had looked upon the sea saw it to be peaceful and lost their fear of its terrors as the ship sailed on toward milder skies."⁵

It may have been seasickness or it may have been some other illness, but one of the "Enigheden" passengers, Merthe Thorsdatter, wife of Kristen Danielson Walde, became so ill during part of the voyage that she was unable to nurse her baby, also named Kristen. Bertha Meling who was then nursing her own Mattias and little Ann, came to her rescue and often nursed both Kristen and Ann on her lap at the same time until Merthe was able to nurse her child again. Nineteen years later on July 5, 1856, the day after Ann's birthday, Ann and Kristen became husband and wife; and 79 years later they celebrated their 60th. wedding anniversary with all of their nine children present. Where was he who could have foretold such a prophecy.⁶

Baby Ann had the whooping cough so badly on the voyage that it was feared that she would not live and have to be buried at sea.

After 73 days on the water, Enigheden sailed into New York harbor on Sept. 14, 1837 and the second longest voyage of the early Norwegian immigration was over. There is a certain thrill in seeing the name of one's forefathers as they appear in printed history and I have there-

¹Osmund Meling's American name.

²Quoted from a genealogy written by a member of our own family: Mary Audentia Smith Anderson, Ancestry and Posterity of Joseph Smith and Emma Hale, (Independence, Missouri, 1929), 627ff.

³I am aware that R.B. Anderson in his First Chapter, p. 196, says: "they had fair weather, and were twelve weeks on the sea" Yet we know from the shipping manifests that among the four emigrant boats, "Enigheden" took 10 days longer to make the passage than the "Aegir", 19 days longer than the "Norden", and more than twice as long as "Den Norske Klippe". Unless the "Enigheden" was an unusually slow boat, this seems to betoken trouble at sea.

⁴Blegen, op.cit., 87, n.16. ⁵Ibid, 90

⁶This story is based on M.A.S. Anderson, op.cit., 627 ff. There are some who may doubt it on the ground that the infants were too old to be nursing -- Ann being just 3 and Kristen 2½. However the customs of feeding infants in different areas and in different periods of history vary so much that the story is not at all incredible. And, of course, in those days there was no milk available for children on long voyages except such as their mothers could provide.

fore transcribed below part of the passenger list of the "Enigheden" as given by Cadbury in Studies and Records. As we look at the list it is not difficult to imagine the picture of the emigrants, dressed in picturesque homespun, lining up in front of the New York Customs House official in order to give their names, ages, and occupations. The errors in spelling, ages, etc., are undoubtedly due to the official's unfamiliarity with the language and the variations in the probably often bashful pronunciations of our emigrants. The numbers at the left denote the order in which they were given. (Note that our party kept pretty well together except for Bergethe Cederberg with the baby Mattias, who were the last two passengers to be listed.)

44	Osmund Guterensen (?) Ahling	49	male	farmer
45	Berthe Mathias	"	39	female "
46	Erik Osmund	"	11	male
47	Guttorm	"	10	"
48	Osmundir (?)	"	6	"
49	Merye Osmund'Datter		9	female
50	Anne		3	
51	Guttron(?) Erichsen Oversland(?)	24	male	farmer
90	Bergethe Marie Cederberg	29	female	servant
91	Matheas Osmund	1	male	

Like their neighbor countrymen, the Norwegian Quakers or Sloopers of 1825, the people on the "Enigheden" went from New York City up the Hudson to Albany and thence by the canal to Rochester. Here they made a temporary stop, as did literally hundreds of other early Norwegian immigrants, at the home of the Quaker, Lars Larson, leader of the Sloop party.¹ "Of their stay at Rochester a few sentences from a letter of Martha Larson, dated Oct. 11, 1837, give a clear picture: "About two weeks ago there arrived from ninety to a hundred people. They stayed at our house about a week, and we furnished meals for nearly all of them. Most of them have now gone to Illinois ..."²

Guttorm Erikson Aursland walked from Rochester to Illinois, some say alone, others, that he had two companions. The subsequent adventures and life of this "Paul Bunyan" of our family, during the early days of the Illinois and Michigan Canal, will be covered in Chapter XIII. But I think we can be fairly certain that he left his Uncle Osmund's family at Rochester.

It is not known where and how Osmund Meling (Thomason) and his family spent the time from Oct. 11, 1837 until Dec. 25, 1837, when they arrived in the Fox River Settlement in La Salle County, Illinois.³ Most of the emigrants went to Buffalo and then on by the Lakes to Chicago; and from there many of them went immediately to Norway, Illinois.² The implication is that this usually took only a few weeks.

¹Police Captain Joseph M. Johnson of Chicago, President of the Sloop-er Society of America, 1932-1947, and Professor Eittrun, made an attempt to have this house purchased in 1937 for preservation as an historical shrine. Unfortunately they were not successful and the structure was torn down.

²Cadbury, loc.cit.

³Two historians have erred in saying that Osmund came as early as 1836. See George T. Flom, A History of Norwegian Immigration to the United States from the Earliest Beginning Down to the Year 1848, (Iowa City, Iowa, 1909). R.B. Anderson gives 1836 on p. 150 but 1837 on p. 178.

Osmund had been fairly well-to-do in Norway and it is reasonable to suppose that he had sufficient funds to handle all normal expenses of the trip to America. These included the cost of the passage which, not including board, was \$31 per grown person.¹ However by the time the Melings reached Chicago they were completely out of money. The reason for this and the story of their arrival in the Fox River Settlement has been ably told by a granddaughter, Anna Madison McFadden, in a story personally contributed for the Ikdal Family History by her niece, Mary Audentia Smith Anderson.²

"I do not know how they got from New York to Illinois. There had been a man and wife (by the name of Survog)³ on the ship, who had come in company with them from Norway, with whom grandfather had an understanding... that they would share fortunes and see each other through. This man and his wife, however, lived very high and soon ran out of money. Grandfather had thought the man was well off. Their agreement was that if one ran short of money the other would help him out. So they just lived off of grandfather's money until it was gone, and then grandfather's family almost starved, being quite penniless. They even had to eat the peelings of the potatoes, which was considered pretty dire straits. ⁴

"They got to Chicago entirely destitute, and got some man, a stranger, to take them from Chicago without pay, but they were to pay when grandfather could earn it. Doesn't it seem funny that a man would trust folks like that in those days? They wouldn't now. So the man took grandmother in the wagon with her baby, and Aunt Ann, and Uncle Osmund. Aunt Ann was about three years old and Uncle Osmund about six, I believe. Then mother, who was the oldest of the children and about eighteen, and her two oldest brothers, Ira and Thomas, and grandfather walked, and that was the way they came all the way to LaSalle County. about 65 miles. ⁵

"They came to Holderman's Grove, a locality later called School Section. They came to the home of Gudmund H_____. It was Christmas. Gudmund was not at home but his wife took them in and fed them. When Gudmund came home he scolded his wife for taking in such a big family of poor folks.

"She said, 'But what could I do? It is Christmas Eve and the woman came with a baby on her breast! I couldn't turn them out!'

"But Gudmund didn't think he had room for them, so he went to his brother-in-law, Jacob Slogvik, who consented to take them in and keep them until they could get into some little shelter of their own. Gudmund was so glad to get rid of this "trash" that he grabbed the bundles they carried and went in Slogvik's door ahead of the immigrants. Slogvik, who was fond of a joke, pretended to be very angry with him for bringing these foreigners into his house, and threatened to have him arrested. This quite frightened Gudmund and he complained of it to his wife, who said in disgust, -

'Well, why did you rush in ahead of them like that? Why didn't you let the poor people go in first?'

"He replied, 'Well, why didn't you tell me to go in that way?' And then they continued the argument in English which, of course mother could not then understand."

There are three interesting sidelights to this story.

(1) There is some possibility that the Osmund Meling family and their friends were low on funds by the time they reached Rochester, that

¹R.B. Anderson, op.cit., 196.

²She has previously published it in her book mentioned above (Ancestry and Posterity of Joseph Smith and Emma Hale).

³They are thought to have been distant cousins of Bertha. The name does not appear on the Enighedden passenger list, but not all farm names are shown.

⁴See also Chapter XX for another explanation of Osmund's loss of funds.

⁵Note that no mention is made of the servant girl, Bergethe Marie Cederberg. She had probably been discharged some time before due to the shortage in funds.

they were among those still remaining there after two weeks, and that they perhaps spent much of the late fall in that locality. An immigrant letter of Oct. 2, 1837 published in a Norway paper, "complains of an overcharge by the captain of the vessel ("Enigheden", and), says that the consul in New York lent (some of) them money to help them get to Rochester."¹ Lars Larson did all he could for the "Enigheden" passengers, even lending some of them money to get to Illinois, but their numbers were too great and their lack of funds too widespread. Ignorance of English made it difficult for the immigrants to get work and Martha Larson's letter in the Quaker archives in Stavanger tells of her "trudging the streets in search of employment" for them, "and reports that her husband had taken many out into the country, presumably to near-by farms."²

(2) The Jacob Slogvik, who gave the Meling family the hospitality of his home in their hour of need, is undoubtedly the Jacob Anderson Slogvik discussed by the historians. He was a brother of the Quaker, Knud Slogvik, whom we have described as the leader of the 1836-37 exodus; and was the first Norwegian to purchase land in the Fox River Settlement,³ the original mother of all subsequent Norwegian settlements.⁴ This land was purchased in Rutland Township, June 15, 1835. Although Jacob went with Knud and Cleng Peerson to found the Shelby County, Missouri, settlement in March of 1837, Knud returned almost at once and Jacob probably either returned with him or not long afterward. We know that Jacob had returned by the Spring of 1838⁵ and Ann McFadden's story would move the date back to the winter of 1837-38.

(3) Nearly 80 years later, and about a year before the death of Christopher Danielson (the baby Kristen mentioned above), a strange man called on his wife Ann, nee Meling. He gave his name as Survog and introduced himself as a son of the man who had had the agreement with Osmund Meling on the trip to America. He said that his father had died with this debt on his conscience and had charged his son to pay it back. So he gave Ann about \$100. Thus we see that even unthrifty Norwegians pay their obligations.

As a final note on the story of our first coming to America let us be sure that we understand why Guttorm Aursland and Osmund Meling located in Illinois and in the Fox River Settlement. The trend to Illinois was already established by the moving of the Sloopers from Kendall, near Rochester, to found the Fox River Settlement only two years before, and by the passengers on the Norden, Den Norske Klippe, and AE-gir, who had just gone to Illinois in 1836 and 1837. Most of Guttorm's and Osmund's fellow passengers were going to the Fox River Settlement. Guttorm was young and unattached and was probably attracted by the possibility of work on the Illinois and Michigan Canal, ground for which was broken July 4, 1836. Lars Larson himself was a canal boat builder and probably talked to Guttorm and the other immigrants a great deal about canal operation. We know that Guttorm (Tom) helped build the canal (Illinois and Michigan) and became a boat captain (tradition says the first). He may have visited the Fox River Settlement and written to his uncle to go there. That he did not meet them upon their arrival is not surprising in view of the slowness of communication in those days. But Osmund would probably have gone to Fox River anyway because of the natural tendency of immigrants in a strange land to congregate with their countrymen; and secondly, because he was a farmer and there was good land to be had in this new settlement which was only just established.

At this point we will take temporary leave of Guttorm and the Melings, leaving the latter under the hospitable roof of Jacob Anderson Slogvik (probably another Quaker) on Christmas Eve, 1837. As a current

¹Blegen, op.cit., 108, n.48. ²Ibid. 108.

³R.B.Anderson, Norwegian Immigration, 175. This does not overlook the fact that Cleng Peerson claimed the first farm. See Carleton C. Qualey, "The Fox River Norwegian Settlement", in the Quarterly Journal of the Illinois State Historical Society, (July, 1934), 144.

⁴Carleton C. Qualey, op.cit.

⁵R.B.Anderson, op.cit., 187, and Blegen, op.cit., 113.

saying goes, "We have arrived"; and while 8/9ths of us haven't a shilling to our names, we have found a friend in our new land, things are bound to get better, "and anyway it's Christmas". In the next chapter we will take a look around, get ourselves established, and see what the new life has to offer.

CHAPTER IV

Our third generation makes the first trial of the "Land of Canaan" and finds it good

Contemporaneous accounts of the Fox River Settlement at the time of the Meling's arrival in 1837 are scattered but informative. The settlement was still new (three years old) and everyone was busy getting established. Land along the steams, where plenty of trees were to be had, was already fast disappearing and the newcomers were having to spread out on the edges of the prairies. This was not at all attractive to the average Norwegian immigrant who was used to trees and had yet to learn of the fertility of the land which did not require clearing. In Hovland's letter of July 6, 1838¹ -- about the time Osmund Meling was getting settled -- he states:

"The land with wood hereabouts is bought up and settled, but there are untold reaches of grasslands (savannahs) which are many miles in extent with the best grass imaginable for pasture for cattle and for as much hay as one desires, without hindrance and with only slight bother."

Wild life was plentiful. In Ryming's "America Book" of 1838 he says:

"If a settler is furnished with a good rifle and knows how to use it he does not have to buy meat during the first two years. A good rifle costs from fifteen to twenty dollars. The chief wild animals are deer, prairie chickens, turkeys, ducks and wild geese. Wild bees are also found. The rivers abound with fish and turtles."² However we cannot help but remember that the Melings arrived without any money whatsoever, the price of a rifle was out of the question, and they had not had the benefit of Rynning's suggestion to bring a gun from Norway.

The climate is also mentioned in early letters. This is of added interest since the Melings arrived in the wintertime with Osmund and the three oldest children walking beside the wagon. We are apt to consider our own climate as commonplace but it apparently did not seem thus to our early immigrants. In an otherwise optimistic letter, Hovland³ writes back to Norway:

"The country here is beautiful to look upon, but the long winter and piercing cold such as I have never in my life experienced, together with the equally strong heat cause me to advise that no person who has a good income in Norway to leave it. This applies especially to people who are growing old, for they would benefit little."

"Mother got work right away and so did grandfather and their conditions soon improved", says our family account. Now wages in those days were not very high. Maren undoubtedly worked as a servant girl and they were paid fifty dollars a year⁴ and did no outside work except to

¹Quoted from Qualey, op.cit. 160. ²Quoted from Blegen, op.cit., 97.

³Loc.cit. ⁴Knudson's "America letter" from Fox River, Apr. 9, 1837. given by Qualey, op.cit., 170. Another reference qualifies servant girls' wages with, "if she speaks some English."

milk the cows".¹ Of course this was high by Norwegian standards. An immigrant writes home, "I hope that my sister ... can come, too, for the wages here for young women are so high that they can earn just as much in one year as in two years in Norway".² Osmund, if he received laborer's wages, got from fifty cents to a dollar per day (in winter)³ or from \$150 to \$200 per year.⁴ On such salaries the family had to buy land, build a house, set up housekeeping, and purchase food and clothing, at prices best given by illustration: a fairly good horse, \$50 to \$100; a yoke of good working oxen, \$50 to \$80; a lumber wagon, \$60 to \$80; a milk cow with calf, \$16 to \$20; butter, 12¢ to 24¢; barrel of the finest wheat flour, \$8 to \$10; a barrel of potatoes, \$1.⁵ That the family succeeded in establishing itself at all seems monumental, but in justice to their fellow immigrants we cannot say that their predicament was too unusual.

The Melings spent the first winter in Mission Township, where there were about 12 to 15 Norwegian families settled.⁶ This implies that they did not long impose on the hospitality of Jacob Anderson Slogvig, since his farm was in Rutland Township. The next year [summer of 1838]⁷ they settled on a farm in Earl Township between one and two miles west and a quarter of a mile north of the present hamlet of Baker. This was in line with the expansion tendencies of the Fox River Settlement we have already referred to, -- northwestward through Adams Township, centering around Leland, and to the adjacent parts of Earl Township.

Their first home was a sod house on the open prairie.⁸ No description of it has come down to us in the family traditions but it was probably not greatly dissimilar from the one usually pictured in pioneer accounts: one room with a low ceiling and one tiny window; a rough door hung between two posts; and a cook stove sitting in front out in the open. In some such abode the daily needs of eight people had to be taken care of. Whether the sod house was really due to lack of funds needed to secure lumber, or to preference, it was probably no worse than the homes described by one disillusioned new immigrant. He writes that "... each of us imagined this country must be a Canaan, flowing with milk and honey, and believed that we would find our countrymen here in the best of circumstances. But alas, when we came to the place where their homes were supposed to be located, we saw only a few huts which, lacking a better comparison, resembled the cattle sheds in Bergen, and we could see both sky and earth through the walls".⁹

Living in a sod house on a prairie must have seemed especially difficult for Osmund and Bertha after their relatively prosperous life in Norway where they had even been able to afford a servant girl. Coupled with their miserable conditions was the fear of illness, for malaria and other sicknesses ravaged the Fox River Settlement in the summer of 1838.¹⁰ The baby Mattias was one of the victims and his death was another burden to bear. Certainly the parents must have longed many times for the fjords and mountains of Mother Norway, and the sighing of her beloved pines must have sounded in memory in their ears.

Then came winter with Hovland's "piercing cold" and heavy snows. The snow drifted so high it almost covered the house. A man with a horse and sled drove over the corner one day and Osmund stuck out his head and told the man to stay off his house. The traveler replied that he would have to put up a sign.

¹Rynning, quoted by Blegen, op.cit., 98.

²Knudson, quoted by Qualey, loc.cit. Blegen, op.cit., quotes the same letter, as ten years instead of two years.

³Rynning, quoted by Blegen, loc.cit. ⁴Knudson, quoted by Qualey, loc.cit.

⁵Rynning, quoted by Blegen, loc.cit.

⁶Hans Valder, cited by R.B.Anderson, op.cit., 221, as finding about fifteen families there in May of 1838.

⁷This insert is my own interpretation of the traditional account.

⁸My own interpretation from the traditional account.

⁹The writer is, of course, Haaeim in his letter to Bishop Neumann quoted from Qualey, op.cit., 203.

¹⁰Blegen, op.cit., 203.

Farming and marketing in the Fox River Settlement were quite different than today. "In those days the settlers broke up only small patches on their land and raised a little wheat and garden truck."¹The breaking plows were huge affairs drawn by six to ten yoke of oxen and had a beam eight to twelve feet long. On this beam an axle was framed, on each end of which was a wheel, sawed from an oak log, to hold the plow upright. This queer-looking affair with its coulter and broad share, turned the virgin soil into black furrows two to three feet in width. And there was lots of other work to be done. Husband, wife, and children were "busy from early in the morning until late at night, building fences around the farm, and hunting the oxen and cows on the boundless prairies and meadows, through the heavy dews".²

"When the time for marketing came, ten neighbors would sometimes club together, load one or two wagons, hitch two or three yoke of oxen to each wagon, and then start to Chicago to sell their produce and purchase as economically as possible the necessities of life. On coming near Chicago [80 miles away] they would sometimes have to hitch five or six yokes of oxen to a single wagon in order to pull it through the mud for which Chicago was noted. In the Fox River Settlement that city was then known as "the Chicago mire".³

But in spite of poverty and frequent illness -- for there were seasons when nearly all the inhabitants were prostrated by fever and ague, -- the Settlement made progress, and rapid progress. Osmund built a log house and purchased land from the government, paying \$1.50 per acre. He later built a plank house. By 1843 there were about 600 inhabitants in the settlement and most of them had passed the initial stage, erected good houses, and were living in comfortable, independent conditions. In addition to the raising of crops and garden produce, herds of cattle and droves of swine were fed on the grassy prairies. The Illinois and Michigan Canal was approaching its final stages and gave prospect of a better market at near-by Ottawa. Schools and churches were available.⁴ The Land of Canaan (Kanaans-Land) was coming into its own and the possibilities in Kleng Peerson's dream were commencing to be understood.

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We have now practically completed⁵ the story of our first three Ikdal generations in its Norwegian setting, and have followed our first family of immigrants across the sea and through their settlement in America. The stage is thus set on both sides of the Atlantic for the accounts of our fourth and fifth generations, whether they elected to remain in the mother country or followed the example of Osmund Meling and Guttorm Aursland.

At this point there will be a slight change in tactics. The fourth and fifth generations will be considered together by families instead of separately according to generation. It is true that stories about the members of the fourth generation would involve only first and second cousin relationship in almost equal proportion, and that there would thus be a certain amount of inter-association. Nevertheless, there is a much closer association between parents and children along family lines. And in this parents-children association there is also a more connected interest for the present day descendant, who finds it difficult to visualize the cousin relationships in the lives of the members of his grandparents or great-grandparents generation.

History, being history, cannot always be interesting, and we cannot promise that the succeeding pages, in telling their stories of the

¹Quoted in R.B.Anderson, op.cit., 228.

²Ibid., 435.

³Ibid., 228.

⁴Adapted largely from the account of the Norwegian journalist, Reiersen. Quoted in Qualey, op.cit., 150-151.

⁵Except for the latter part of the lives of Guttorm Aursland and Osmund and Bertha Meling.

families, one-two-three fashion, will always be good reading. Every line of a given story will probably seem important to the direct descendant, but his fourth cousin may feel that the story is too much like its predecessor. Nevertheless it is my belief that the patient individual who reads straight along as the pages turn, will be amply repaid by many gems of humor and pathos, mystery and high adventure.

CHAPTER V

In which we analyze a mystery and escape from the maelstrom

As we have seen in Chapter II, Maren Guttormsdatter Musland (Erland) and her husband Tormud Sjurson Hundsnes had five children: Sjur, Serena, Maren, Guttorm, and Burnla. Tormud died and Maren remarried Tollef Tollefson Kallecod, who then came to Hundsnes, and by him had two more children; Karena and a second Serena. We thus have "Serena, the older" and a "Serena, the younger".

Sjur Tormudson Hundsnes was a cripple from birth. Although he stood at medium height, his knees came together when he walked and he always used a cane. In addition his speech was difficult to understand. For these reasons the inheritance of the farm Hundsnes passed to the next oldest brother, Guttorm. Sjur lived with Guttorm and, through his mother, received folga from the place. He lived to be about 75 years old.

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Serena, the older was the first of the Hundsnes family to come to America. She is one of the unsolved "mysteries" in our genealogy. She came long before her sister Maren in 1868 according to one account, and another source reports that she came alone and pins the year down to "cholera time" which would be in 1849. If this is true she would have been 31 years old. One nephew states quite emphatically that she died in North Carolina but could not elaborate as to why or when she went there, or if she went alone. Another nephew reports that she went down south and disappeared and that no one ever seemed to know whether she was married or not. He mentions the state of Virginia since a Norwegian colony was founded in that state, and of course she might have gone there with some family for whom she was working.

The story of the third nephew has a little more substance to back it up: "I thought that she died at Osmund Meling's near Leland", he writes, "as I heard them say that he gave a cow to my sister Karen as my mother (Maren) was not here, as she (Serena) left a little money and this cow was given as mother's share." This would seem to establish the date of Serena's death between 1865, when Karen came to America and 1868 when Maren arrived.

In analyzing these stories it at first seems most logical to believe that Serena Tormudsdatter Hundsnes died and is buried in the state of North Carolina about the year 1866. The fact that a cow was given in estate settlement does not prove that Serena was in Illinois at the time of her death since Karen was just getting established and a cow from her Great Uncle Osmund would be what she needed most. Serena's money may have been sent from North Carolina to Osmund. The fact that a settlement was made to the sisters and brothers of the deceased implies, though not conclusively, that Serena had no children.

However there is another factor to seriously tilt the applecart of

our theories. Why were there two children named Serena in the same family unless there had been a death of the first before the birth of the second? This naming of a child after one that was deceased was often the custom in Norway. There was no one in the ancestry of Serena the younger, after whom it was necessary to name her according to another custom, as she was not the oldest daughter even of her mother's second marriage. Serena, the younger, was born between 1840 and 1842, at which time Serena the older would have been 24 or 26 years old. Now the third nephew mentioned above once said that Serena the older came to America with his mother's Uncle, Osmund Meling. When the passenger lists failed to confirm this, he said that he was not sure about the coming to America but that he was sure that she lived with Osmund Melings in America. This all adds up to the possibility that Serena came to America in 1837, when she was about 21, or shortly thereafter; that she lived with the Melings; that she died after a few years, either there (in which case she would have been buried in Baker Cemetery) or in North Carolina; and that her inheritance was either too small for proper distribution or else this was neglected until the more favorable opportunity was offered in the period 1865 to 1868. The amount of the inheritance could even be construed as confirmation of an early death. If a cow was 1/6th. of the inheritance (Serena had six brothers and sisters and its value was about \$15, the implied \$90 would be about the equivalent of two years wages as a servant girl.

With this we will leave the story of Serena the older for the sleuths of our present generation to ponder upon.

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Maren Tormudsdatter Hundsnes, the third child, married Ole Tollefson Kallecod, brother of Tollef, Maren's step-father. So here was a case of a man and his brother marrying a woman and her daughter,-- and the one who married the daughter died first. We have discussed Ole's family and inheritance of Kallecod with his sister Brindla in the first part of Chapter II. Both Ole and Maren were fair of complexion and short of stature.

Ole and Maren set up housekeeping on Kallecod, Tysvaer. Kallecod had the farms of Hundsnes and Slogvik as neighbors on the north and Stensvik (and Narrevik) on the south. To the east was the Skjoldafjorden, the big island Børgoy, and Nerstrand parish. These farms were all large, very hilly, and mountainous. Much of the land was stony or covered with timber and most of it was too poor to raise good crops. The best land was away from the coast. Farms were fenced along the coast. Kallecod was probably larger than a section (640 acres) including some islands, but only a few acres could be farmed. Some of these were at the base of a hill and some were on top. The crops were oats, barley, wheat, and potatoes. The land on Kallecod was so steep that a man could not walk straight up the hill with a load, but had to go zig-zag. The farm supported only four or five cows and a few sheep.¹ All told,¹ it is not surprising that Ole found additional means of support. He chopped down trees and sold logs and cordwood; he fished a great deal; and he owned a half interest in the mill located on the farm.

Ole Tollefson Kallecod had to put up the buildings on his land. He cut logs from the farm itself, planed them off nicely, and built the house on a hill overlooking the fjord to the southeast. He put boards outside the logs and capped the house with a tiled roof. Windows were made on only one side of the house although there were five rooms. Ole's portion of Kallecod also had a husmann's house, as did that of his sister Brindla's.

Now the children of Ole and Maren Kallecod were eight in number as follows: Karena, Maren, Brunla, Tormud, Tollef, Syvert Olaus, Bertha Serena, and Metta Helena.

¹This estimate seems small but even if doubled, what a vivid picture we have of the agricultural productivity of Norwegian land. Here is more than a section with only a few tillable acres and probably two dozen head of stock.

Karena, the first born, worked out before her marriage, haying, milking, making butter and cheese, etc. She met and was courted by a sailor named Lars Nilson Slogvik who was probably from the neighboring farm of Slogvik, which we have described in speaking of Kallecod. As a sailor Lars had some thrilling experiences, one of which is related by a son as follows.

"Father was a very modest man, without any fan-fare as to his feats or deeds. On a certain trip by boat to the Faroe Islands the crew found their ship seized by the whirling current of the great maelstrom. It is reported that scores of boats and hundreds of lives have been lost in this, the greatest whirlpool in the world. At high tide or at low tide, and with an adverse wind blowing, no boat caught in its swirling grip has ever escaped, according to accounts. So treacherous is the action of this great whirlpool that at certain times a boat may pass directly over its very vortex without being able to even discern its presence. At other times its sucking whirl extends for miles around.¹

"Father relates that the ship had been carried along for a mile or two, and every effort had been made by the captain and crew to divert the ship out of the current by means of the arrangement of sails, rudder, and rope ballast, but to no avail. In desperation father seized one of the "long oars" and stuck it down along the outside of the boat at the stern near the rudder, and called to Hans Valde to help him hold it, and to heave with all his might. This 'long oar' resting against the bulge of the boat served as a lever -- with the broad flat side of the oar churning the raging current at right angles to its course -- and as a complement to the rudder, sails, etc. Lars and Hans applied the frenzied strength of desperate men to the oar with the result that the oar broke in two and sent them sprawling backwards into the hold. But at that very moment the bow of the boat lifted out of the water, skimmed at an angle across the surface of the current, and an open sea lay ahead with the boat once more under control of the crew. The boat had made a complete circle of the whirlpool and was just at the turn to race the pool once more when this delivery came. Father called it a miracle -- and the captain called for thanks to God for delivery from certain death."

"Another story father told was of a storm in which he lashed himself to a mast which dipped him to the waves while he was splicing or tying a rope."

After such experiences it is not surprising that Karena Kallecod made Lars promise to forever forsake his life as a seaman as a condition to her marrying him. They were married on Kallecod and lived there with Karena's father for two years. Lars worked for Ole and part of the time rented some land from him, thus acquiring the name Kallecod. After the birth of their first child Lars and Karena decided to go to America. The move may have been due in part to Lars not as yet having acquired a love for farming.

In the year 1865 Lars and Karena, after a long trip, disembarked from a sailboat at the American port of Quebec. From there they rode in box and cattle cars to Leland, Illinois, where Great Uncle Osmund Meling and other relatives could make them welcome. Lars dropped the name Kallecod and went simply by the name of "Lars Nilson". The second, third, and fourth children are entered in La Salle County church records under this name. However during their five years of residence in Earl Township they encountered so much confusion with so many "Nilsons" and "Nelsons", that in 1870 when they moved to Champaign, Illinois, Lars again took the name, Kallecod. About 1872 they moved a few miles north to Rantoul, where their brother Tollef Kallecod lived with them. Shortly thereafter they rented a farm near where Tollef had been breaking land about two miles south and a little east of Rantoul.

In March of 1876 Lars and Karena purchased a farm of their own about 10 miles north of Rantoul. This farm of 80 acres was located in a little Norwegian and Swedish community known as Farmersville in Patton Township, Ford County. It was six miles from their home to Elliot

¹The maelstrom is located in the Lofoten Islands between Moskenesoy and Veerdy.

on the west and the same distance to Paxton on the east. The land was rather low and in their first years they suffered from chills and fever until it was drained by tile.

Karena was short in stature, of light weight, and had light auburn hair. She was quiet, gentle, and religious. She died on their farm at Farmersville.

It was after her death when the oldest son, while attending college at Aurora, Illinois, adopted the spelling, "Callecod", and this was gradually taken over by the rest of the family. Lars remarried Feb. 3, 1882, Karina Stensland Anderson.¹ He died Aug. 4, 1923.

The second child of Maren and Ole Kallecod was named Maren after her mother's mother, as was the custom. Maren married Lars Knutson Narrevik from the second farm south of Kallecod. Narrevik lay between the road and the fjord near the south end of Børgoy. Lars' father, Knute, had two farms and two sons, so he gave a farm to each one. Lars apparently got Stensvik as that was where he and Maren lived. The gaard was between Narrevik and Kallecod and has already been described. Four of the nine children born to Lars and Maren came to America but the parents elected to remain in Norway.

CHAPTER VI

We take another trip to America or "Crossing the Soup in '68"

Brunla, the third child of Maren Tormudsdatter Hundsnes and Ole Tollefson Kallecod, was probably the jolliest one of the family. She liked to make mischief and was always full of fun. She caught a boy friend standing at her window one time and always slept upstairs after that. Her nature was just the opposite of her favored suitor, John Nelson Traelena. John was bashful, retiring, and pious with Quaker instincts, even going to jail one time rather than be drafted into military service. He learned to be a shoemaker and courted Brunla while working at that trade. When she pretended to reject him, he was quiet and downcast, But she really loved and respected him and they were married April 28, 1868, just before the Traelenas and most of the Kallecods left for America. The ceremony was at Kallecod but there was not much of a celebration as they were all busy getting ready for America. What a grand trip for a honeymoon that was to be for a young couple! And they would be starting life in the new world with both sets of parents available for love and guidance! How fortunate they were and what happiness must have been theirs!

The Traelena family came from Hundsnes. "Traelena" was the name of a plot of land on Hundsnes for which Nels Traelena had a life lease. This he sold before coming to America. There were five or six other children in the family besides John.

The reasons for the Kallecod-Traelena emigration to America we need not discuss so thoroughly as we did for the Meling-Aursland of 31 years before. An important reason -- the economic one -- was still present: the scarcity of land in Norway and the abundance of opportunities in America. The Kallecod's daughter, Karena, had been in America three years and her letters undoubtedly urged them to follow her. The Traelenas also had relatives in America -- and in La Salle County, Illinois, at Norway. However the main reason for Ole Kallecod's decision

¹By her he had a son, Andrew, now of Terra Haute, Indiana.

to come was to get his sons away from being drafted by the government for military drilling. He had three fine boys and he wanted them to make good.

Ole had a sale before their departure. Sales in Norway differed in some respects from those in America. Bulletins to advertise the sale were posted near the Tysvaer church. The auctioneer was controlled by the government to the extent that he could not sell outside of his own sogn. When the sale was over the auctioneer paid the full amount of the sale money to Ole at once. Then he looked to the buyers for payment to him.

Maren's brother, Guttorm Hundsnes, loaned his boat to the party for the trip to Stavanger, from which point a man was to bring it back. They ran into a storm and had to put in at a harbor on an island (Bakkevik). From here they took a yawl to the mainland and four of the Kallecod family walked across a peninsula to Topnes to spend the night. We can imagine the surprise of Bjorn and Karena Topnes at again seeing some of their sister's family so soon after bidding them goodbye.

In Stavanger there were still many things to do before they could set sail. When they bought their tickets, which cost about \$25 per person, the government prescribed how many pounds of food they had to take, and the steamship company issued a list of things required for each immigrant. So the Kallecods were busy buying and stocking up in their two days stay in a Stavanger rooming house. With the balance of his money Ole went to a bank and purchased a bill of exchange in order to secure American money upon his arrival in the new world.

The boat on which they sailed was a freight boat called the "Herm". The family had chosen this method of crossing rather than a passenger boat as that would have cost more and would have meant going to Germany or England first. The "Herm" was a sailing ship. It was spoken of by the old phrase "400 laster"¹ which meant a boat about 850 American tons capacity. It carried passengers and had stones for ballast on the trip west to America and probably intended to stay in North American ports long enough to get a cargo for the return, even though this might take several years.

It is difficult to pass by one of these emigrant embarkations without wondering about the emotions of the participants. Most of us have probably taken a trip at some time or other during our lives and recall with pleasure the rush of preparation and the keenness of our anticipations up to that final exciting moment of departure. Some of us have taken automobile trips to distant states, camped out, and know the thrill of planning such a venture -- especially the first one. And a lucky few have gone aboard a boat, on which amid strange surroundings, we were to voyage to distant lands where the customs and language were to be foreign to those we knew. But the emigrant, it seems to me, is in a class by himself. He has all these thrills; but in addition he has all the heart-breaking pathos of parting from loved relatives, lifelong friends, and the old familiar scenes of home and childhood of which the poets write. And it is a parting which goes much deeper than that we experience when we sell the farm and move a few miles to town. The immigrant's parting has the element of great distance, and his parting is final -- forever. And in most cases he probably realized it. What a curious admixture of excitement, wonder, hope, regret, and sorrow there must have been in the hearts of our immigrant forefathers.

The good ship "Herm" carried about 400 immigrants. On each deck was a big room where everybody ate and slept. If we estimate that there were three decks, that would mean one hundred and thirty odd people to a room. Light was supplied by some lanterns which burned kerosene. The various families slept together but there was one section on one side of the room for the single men and one on the opposite side for the unmarried women. Of course all in all there wasn't much privacy but folks were not too fussy and since there wasn't much light anyway the undressing problem was not very bothersome.

¹The last was used as a unit in measuring a ship's capacity. The average for northern Europe is equivalent to two British tons or 38.00 British cwt.

Water was rationed. Every morning one member of the family would take a vessel and go to the man at the water tanks. Each family had a ticket showing how many members it had and water was dealt out accordingly. Not until the St Lawrence River was reached did everyone get as much water as they wanted.

There were fireplaces for cooking and the steamship company furnished the fuel. Only one meal, dinner, was cooked each day. Each family had to wait its turn to cook and since there were so many families it was necessary for some to start in right after breakfast to cook dinner.

(Personally we can't decide whether we would have preferred the 8:00 A.M. dinner or the 5 P.M. dinner.) All eating was done at their respective beds. AND the men had to do most of the cooking because nearly all the women were seasick, not being used to the sea. (The men, not being adepts at the culinary art, we cannot help but wonder about the odors in the holds when some good farmer burned the dinner while his wife was in her worst throes of seasickness. But perhaps they turned the switch on the Roto-Beam electric ventilating fan!)

The "Herm" ran into a bad storm and all sails except the storm sail were taken down. It was impossible to keep on enough sail to breast this unwelcome storm and so they were driven back before the wind. For twenty-four hours not a soul expected to see land again. When the gale and waves finally abated and the captain got his bearings, he told them that the ship had been driven back several days travel and several hundred miles in the wrong direction.

A number of the passengers got the measles and one woman died and was buried at sea.

The sailors were good to the Kallecod boys and let them climb up on the mast about 20 feet and play checkers. Tormud was 20, Tollef was 18 and Syvert Olaus, 15, so they probably had a pretty good time on the good days when they could be above board.

It was a great day when they sighted land. This was in the mouth of the St Lawrence River. The voyage had lasted six weeks and three days. They shot off a gun to summon a pilot and had to drop anchor while waiting for him so that the tide would not sweep them back out to sea. Each of the Kallecod boys had received a nice gold watch before sailing for America. In the excitement of the arrival with the passengers crowding the rail, a woman grabbed at Tollef to keep herself from falling and his watch fell overboard. In as much as the "Herm" had had measles on board, the entire boatload was placed under quarantine for three days.¹ The doctor, who spoke only English, examined everybody by having them stick out their tongues. One crazy woman refused to do this and held up the whole party.

The place where they were held in Quarantine was on shore where they were taken by a small boat at \$1 per head. Many trips were necessary to get everybody ashore and then back to the boat again. While in quarantine they lived mostly on food secured from a nearby bakery, the principal product of which was "saldretta" bread. This was described as a salt-raising bread. It was not a sour nor yet a sweet bread, and was made by leaving a little out from the preceding batch each time.² Maren said she didn't think much of America if that was the kind of bread they had.

First expenses were paid for with American money which Ole secured with his bill of exchange. At that time American paper money was not worth as much as gold -- there was about 20¢ difference. Ole kept a few of the small gold dollars and later exchanged them. In those days there were also 15¢ and 25¢ paper bills.³

When the quarantine period was over they reembarked on the "Herm" and continued on to Quebec where they disembarked for good. As a part-

¹One week according to another account.

²I have not been able to identify this bread in more concise terms but it is probably the "salt-rising" bread familiar to our American grandmothers.

³One cannot help but wonder what part, if any, Canadian money played in the picture.

ing gift, the steamship company gave each immigrant a New Testament in Norwegian and a pamphlet giving common words in both English and Norwegian.

The trip from Quebec to Leland, Illinois, took from seven to nine days. The cost was \$10 apiece, although from Quebec to Detroit it would have been \$2 cheaper by boat. Between these two cities they rode in box cars in which seats had been fixed. The children slept in the aisles. While in Canada the engine burned wood. The train (excepting the engine) was taken across the Detroit River at Detroit on a ferry which had three tracks for the cars. The Kallecod boys sat up on top of the latter and played checkers and other games. On the American side the cars were run off the ferry and the immigrants took their baggage through the customs. There was an interpreter traveling with the immigrant train and he helped them over the rough spots. At Detroit they changed to different box cars and continued on to Chicago. Here they had to change stations and carted their baggage between them on a wheelbarrow. From Chicago they enjoyed regular passenger cars for the last day of the journey to Leland, Illinois, where they were welcomed by their daughter Karena and Uncle Osmund Meling. The date was July 4, 1868.

CHAPTER VII

We do a little lumbering and get lost on another twig

Upon their arrival the Kallecods stayed with Karena and Lars Nilson (Slogvik) for awhile. The boys hired out in the harvest, receiving \$3 per day in greenbacks. But it was hard work and very hot. Wheat was worth about \$2 per bushel and a lot of it was raised in those days. People raised wheat until the land wore out (although it is said fall wheat would not have exhausted the soil) and then wheat moved west with the immigrant and corn was raised on the old wheat land. The Kallecods bought wheat and took it to Rochelle to be ground into flour.

That fall Ole Kallecod rented 40 acres a couple miles west and south of Osmund Meling. He also bought two horses, paying \$120 each.

After a year here he rented a 120 acre farm from Osmund, located about six miles southeast of Leland¹ and still in Earl Township. There were two houses on this place. Here they were scarcely well settled when tragedy overtook them in the first days of the year 1871. Typhoid fever came to plague the members of the family and claimed two of them by death. The youngest child, Metta Helena, aged eleven, died on Jan. 8 and her mother Maren followed seven days later. The sad task of dressing and preparing them for burial fell to the lot of Tormud, the oldest son. They were taken in a lumber wagon to Baker Cemetery.²

After the death of his wife and daughter Ole went to Champaign County with his son Tollef and the other children went to stay with Brunla. However Ole returned and spent most of the balance of his life with his daughter Brunla. He died in her home and is buried in the

¹This fact is also recorded by Qualey, op.cit., who mentions the Meling relationship.

²The plight of the Kallecods at this point brings to mind the stories told by Anderson (436-437) where all the members of a family would be afflicted with fever and too weak to help themselves; and where perhaps only a few individuals in the community would have constitutions strong enough to resist sickness and render aid.

cemetery at Norway, Illinois.

Brunla and her husband, John Nelson (Traelena) had settled near Norway with John's parents. The older Traelenas lived in the timber a short distance west of Norway. John and Brunla's farm originally consisted of 80 acres¹ purchased at \$50 per acre from a man named Osmundson. They also bought 40 acres of timber and another 60 acres. Brunla raised lots of chickens and turkeys and used to hunt for turkey nests in the timber. She kept the family (there were four children) well supplied with potato cakes, homemade cheese, and tasty Norwegian dishes but didn't like to sew.

John and Brunla entered their final sickness together and neither had ever seen a death. John dreamed of ascending into Heaven with his wife by his side, and he died just two days after she did.

The fourth child of the Kallecods, and the oldest son, was Tormud.² In America he went by the name of Tormud O. Thompson. "He was always talking of the old country;³ he could remember", said one of his nieces when discussing the family's history.

The second year he was in America Tormud worked out for \$26 per month. Such were the wages of a young man starting out in life in the year 1870. In 1876 he married (at the bride's home) Malinda Bergeson, who was born in Aardal, near Stananger, Norway. Malinda came to America with her parents when she was 18 months old and lived at Leland before her marriage. She was probably a niece of Ole Bergeson Uhr, of both Aardal and Leland, two of whose daughters married into another branch of the Ikdal family. Tormud and Malinda located in Vermillion County, Illinois, northeast of Danville near the Indiana line. The town was East Lynn and it was about 20 miles due east of Farmersville where Karena and Lars were living. After a year on a farm at East Lynn they moved to the Farmerville community and lived just across the road from Karena and Lars Kallecod.

On this farm Tormud and Malinda lived for 39 years. They had nine children and raised a tenth one, a cousin of Tormuds, as a foster child. In 1916 they retired to the nearby town of Elliot where Malinda died in 1928. Tormud lived the remainder of his life with his children in Illinois, Iowa, and South Dakota. The last few weeks were spent in the home of his son Martin of Iowa Falls, Iowa. He was buried, however, in Elliot, Illinois. He was 93 years old.

Tollef was the fifth child of Ole and Maren Kallecod. He also took the name of Thompson. The first year he was in America he worked for Haver Meltvedt whose "American" name was Knudson. He also worked for his Ikdal cousins, Christopher and Ann Danielson. After the death of his mother and sister Tollef went to the area southeast of Rantoul as already mentioned. He was attracted to Champaign County because it was the newer country and there was more prairie. He had been frugal enough to save money for a team of horses and these he used in breaking prairie for a year. Land was selling at \$10 per acre. Karena and Lars lived with him for a time, as we have seen. During slack seasons Tollef did miscellaneous work in the neighborhood. Commercial trapping was his occupation for several winters. He also did team work in the construction of the Illinois Central Railway. By these means he earned enough to get a good start at farming.

The lady of Tollef's choice was Martha Sarah Knudson, daughter of his former employer, Haver Meltvedt. Many of the Meltvedts were Quakers and lived in the settlement at Le Grande, Iowa, and also near West Branch.⁴ Martha's mother was Anna Danielson, who with a half-brother was the only survivor of their family in a cholera epidemic.⁵ Martha was born about two or three miles west of Leland, the second child of a

¹In Mission Township. ²See footnote at beginning of Chapter XXVII.

³He spoke of cousins, Launes Kluleen, and Inger Ulena Bringedal -- apparently relatives on the Kallecod side.

⁴Martha's first cousin once removed married a first cousin of President Herbert Hoover.

⁵It is tempting to try and establish a connection with the Chris Danielson family mentioned in Chapter III. Their cholera experience is given in Chapter XXII.

family of two boys and five girls. Her mother passed away when she was only thirteen, and so most of the responsibility and care of the other children, as well as the housekeeping, fell upon Martha.

Tollef and Martha commenced their long married life together on Tollef's farm in the Farmersville community. After the birth of the first child they moved south into the adjoining Champaign County on a farm near Thomasboro, about ten miles north of Urbana.¹ Here the next five children were born. Thomasboro was a big Norwegian settlement but the Norwegians gradually moved to Iowa and were replaced by the Germans. In 1889 there were only two Norwegians left -- Ole Erickson and Tollef Thompson, but they soon followed the others, Tollef leaving in 1890. The relative cheapness of farms in Iowa and the desire to be near Martha's relatives, were deciding factors for the move.

The new home was a farm of 320 acres in Section 18, Richland Township, Story County, Iowa, north of the town of Nevada. Here the sixth, seventh, eighth, and ninth children were born and here the family lived until they retired to Nevada in 1909. Tollef also owned 160 acres of land in northeastern Wyoming. Tollef and Martha celebrated their 60th. wedding anniversary Mch. 28, 1939. The following year Martha died and was buried in the Nevada Cemetery.

Tollef, like his brother Tormud, lived to be a nonagenarian. In spite of his advanced age he kept up with current events and with local and public affairs. He had never failed to exercise his voting privilege since getting his naturalization papers at Paxton, Illinois, on Oct. 21, 1878. He died at the age of 92½ as a result of injuries received in a fall on the ice. Burial was in the Nevada Cemetery.

Syvert Olaus Thompson was the sixth child in the Kallecod family. When a young man he worked out by the month for three or four years for his Ikdal cousins, Sampson K. and Maren Sampson. He married Isabelle Hanson, the third of five children born to Ole H. and Julia Hanson. The couple had two children and raised a third as a foster child. The home farm was in Mission Township, La Salle County, and consisted of more than 300 acres. Both died in Mission and were buried in the Norway Cemetery.

Berta Serena, the seventh child of Ole and Maren Kallecod, married Knud Solvason Ugland. Her Ikdal cousin, Caroline Erickson, stood up with them at the ceremony. Bertha and Knud like Brunla and John Nelson (Traelena), provided another illustration of the saying that opposites attract. Only in this case it was the wife who was the quiet one of the pair. Knud was energetic and quite talkative but Bertha was quiet, reserved, and well poised. She was a fine family manager.

Knud was born and raised in Kristiansand, the large seaport on the southern coast of Norway. Knud was a carpenter and practiced the trade both in Kristiansand and in Chicago after his arrival in America. This was in 1871, the year of the Chicago fire. Leaving Chicago, Knud went to Norway, Illinois, and settled down for good. He joined the church there, when Otto Sanaker was pastor, during the widespread revival at Leland, Lee, and Norway. Knud practiced carpentering except for ten years on the farm. He was elected Constable in Norway in 1890 and Tax Collector in 1898.

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The fourth child and the second son of Maren Guttormsdatter Musland and Tormud Sjurson Hundsnes was Guttorm. Since his older brother was a cripple, as was noted in Chapter V, Guttorm received the inheritance of the large farm of Hundsnes.² He married Malinda Sandvik, daughter of Erik and Malinda Sandvik, who probably lived on one of the three before-mentioned, husmannplass on Sandvik, but was not related to the Lars Segveson Sandviks. Guttorm and Malinda had five children: Maren,

¹This farm may have been the one where Tollef first broke prairie as Rantoul and Thomasboro were adjoining towns.

²The reader should recall that this terminology does not always mean the entire farm or gaard. As stated earlier our forefathers owned only the north half of Hundsnes.

Johanna, Tormud, Erik, and Sevrine.

With all of the timber on Hundsnes it is not surprising that Guttorm and his three sons, Tormud, Erik, and Sevrine, spent most of their winters cutting logs and working up cordwood. About the only relaxation from this job was on Sundays when they went to church. Such things as playing cards were definitely frowned upon.

The timber was quite a ways from the house and father and sons took their dinners with them. After the trees were cut down they were hauled down to a lake. When the ice broke up in the spring the logs were floated on a river on down to a second lake; thence on a second river to a third lake, and finally by a third river into the fjord itself. There was lots of shipbuilding and a big need for logs. Some logs were mean to handle because the shipbuilding company wanted some of the roots left on in order to have curved pieces. Such logs the company would hew by hand. The ship builders took charge of the logs after the Hundsnes family got them to the fjord.

However not all of the logs were sold for shipbuilding. Guttorm had an interest in a sawmill and sold some of them for boards. Others were cut into the proper lengths for barrel staves by the hand cross-cut saw and were made into the finished product by the saw-mill. This mill was run by water and was probably located on Hundsnes.

Many of the logs were cut up in two-foot lengths as cordwood by Guttorm and his sons and then split before they were put into the first lake. This must have been real work but it probably did not render them always insensible to the beauty of their surroundings. We should pause and recall some woodcutters' clearing we have seen at some time, perhaps in the winter with the snow on the ground. Or failing this, we should recall some painting or motion picture showing a woods in winter with the dark green of pine and spruce showing up against the whiteness. Add an early morning sun to glisten the snow -- you can bet Guttorm and the boys got an early start; the suggestion of a squirrel or some other inhabitant over there at the edge of the trees, throw in a cubic mile of crispness, a ton or so of quietness when the men stop the saws for rest, a bunch of logs, and a new fallen tree, and -- why you can almost smell the odor of pine! Now swing that axe for a few hours and see how good that lunch will taste that Malinda and the girls have put up. Will there be flatbrød and the candy-like goat's cheese?

But to return to the cordwood. The pieces in the first lake were put into a boom, i.e., they were bunched together and enclosed by a circular string of logs. After the boom was taken across the lake the pieces had to be taken out and put into the first river; then into a boom again at the second lake, and so on. Birch was particularly mean to handle as it would sink when wet. They almost had to work it night and day to keep it moving. When the wood finally reached the fjord it was piled up and either sold on the spot or taken to town.

The oldest child of Guttorm Tormudson Hundsnes and Malinda Eriksdatter was Maren Serena. Before her marriage she worked at home and attended school under the same teacher as her future husband. Of course the schoolteachers in those days went from house to house. She was married on Hundsnes to Nels Aænenson Slogvig.

Nels Aænenson Slogvig was born on Lendal, a husmannplass on Slogvig,¹ Tysvaer, a farm we have already described. It was about two and one-half miles from Hundsnes. Nels was the third child and the second son among five children born to Aanen and Melinda Slogvig.² Nels became a sailor and followed the sea until his marriage. There were several reasons for this. Lendal was a small place -- too small to be divided. Secondly, although a husmann owned his own buildings, a husmannplass could not be inherited according to the Norwegian system, but would revert to the former owner.³ Finally, Nels was not the oldest son and

¹Note that Nels was not known by the name of the husmannplass, Lendal whereas John Nelson used the name of Traelena, his husmannplass on Hundsnes.

²Children in order of age were Aanen, Louise, Nels, Martin, and Andrew

³When a husmann died and agreement could not be reached as to where possession of the buildings rested, the question was arbitrated.

thus had little chance of any kind of inheritance.

Nels and Maren bought the farm Oddnes in Skjold. Oddnes was near the base of a small peninsula on the south side of the Grendeffjord. In Norway as in America people usually paid what cash they had for a farm and then mortgaged the rest. Oddnes was a small farm and only kept three or four cows.

Nels and Maren had two children. Maren died around 1930 and was buried in Skjold. Nels then sold the farm. There was an old and a new house on Oddnes and Nels fixed up the former and lived there quietly for the balance of his life, getting folga from the farm.

Maren's younger sister and the second child was named Johanna. She married Kolben Hervik II, only son of Kolben and Margaret Hervik. Kolben was born on Stjernerø, an island, but his parents bought on Hervik and moved there. Kolben II¹ took over the place after his marriage. Hervik was in the south of Tysvaer on the Hervikfjord,² a direct branch of the main Boknfjord; and is marked even on fairly small scale maps as it is situated at the end of a main road out from Haugesund. Hervik was a pretty good-sized gaard -- larger than Oddnes, for example, and raised ten or twelve cows. There were four farms and some husmenn. Rasmus Hervik had the largest farm and Kolben the next to the largest. Those who have read their histories of Norwegian immigration will recall that one of the Sloop families came from Hervik. There was no timber on the farm³ to amount to anything. It was necessary to go north as far as Narrevik, Kallecot, and Hundsnes for that.

There was good fishing near Hervik and also good swimming. It was very popular for the latter sport, the water being about ten feet deep. The city folks came out in great numbers and went swimming in the nude with little segregation of the sexes. The country folks did this sort of thing very rarely.

Johanna died on Hervik and is buried in Tysvaer. Kolben's oldest son took over the farm and Kolben built a little folgahus and lived in it. He was a big man. In 1942 he was still living.

Their third child, Guttorm and Melinda named Tormud after his father's father, as was the custom in the naming of oldest sons. As a young man he worked on the home farm and inherited it just before his marriage.⁴ The inheritance or odelret always included the machinery and cattle so there was very little to give to the brothers and sisters. Distribution to them usually took place after the death of the parents and consisted of a share of any remainder not used as folga. In this case the youngest brother, Severin, received a cow as his portion.⁵

Tormud married Margreta Gudmundsdatter Bakkevik. Bakkevik was straight across the Hervik fjord to the southeast from Hervik in Tysvaer Parish and its people were among the more well-to-do families. Tormud and Margreta lived on Hundsnes and raised seven children, the youngest of which was adopted. Margreta was very stout. She was a good woman and went out of her way to be good to poor people. Tormud was spoken of as a nice sensible man. A good writer, he wrote a good deal; a good singer and religious in nature, he was in demand for singing at funerals. A farmer in summer, he was a fisherman in the wintertime. Small in stature, he apparently was just the opposite of his wife.

Margreta died on Hundsnes from cancer and was buried on Tysvaer.⁶ Tormud's oldest son took over the place and Tormud built a small fol-

¹The II is not Norwegian custom but is used here merely to differentiate.

²Our forefathers called this Nerstrandsfjord though the maps show the latter farther east.

³Here again the whole farm or gaard is referred to. Our forefathers made no distinction in their speaking, apparently, and the meaning must be taken from the context.

⁴Frequently the parents continued to live in part of the house.

⁵Considering that Hundsnes was a "good rich farm" this illustration gives an idea of how most Norwegian children fare in the matter of inheritance.

⁶A common expression. It actually means she was buried in the Tysvaer Church Cemetery.

gahus and lived in it.

The next in line in the Guttorm Tormudson Hundsnes family was Erik. In Erik we find another sailor in the family -- and one whose wife let him stick to it even after marriage -- as long as he stayed close to home.

He took to the sea at the age of fifteen and traveled all over the world, visiting many countries. On one of these voyages the crew ran into climate fever on a journey from the East Indies to Hamburg. When they left the Indies there were 32 men manning the sails. When they arrived in Hamburg only 3 men were on deck. All the rest were in bed.

Erik married Maren Serena Stensvik, second daughter of Lars Knutson Stensvik and Maren Olesdatter Kallecod, Erik's first cousin. (See Chapter V). They took up residence in Haugesund. Maren agreed to let Erik take another trip however. On this voyage when sailing homeward from Boston on a rye boat, the boat sprung a leak and sank, while the crew took to the life boats. This was during the time of World War I and they were picked up by an English ship and taken to the Azores.

He became a licensed coast pilot and continued to live in Haugesund. Maren died while she was still a comparatively young woman and was buried in Haugesund. She left Erik with a small son and her sister Metta Helena came to look after him while Erik was away piloting. She gradually became like a mother to this boy and it is not surprising that she and Erik were married. They continued to live in Haugesund for a short time before moving south to Koppervik, on the island, Karmoy, as Erik's boat operated out of there. They lived in a rented house at first but later bought one. Erik developed stomach trouble and was taken to Haugesund, where he died on the operating table. He had been a coast pilot for ten years. In 1942 Metta was still living in their house in Koppervik.

Sevrine Guttormson Hundsnes was the last one of Guttorm and Melinda's children and the only one to come to America. He sailed from Stavanger May 1, 1886 across the North Sea to Hull, England. The boat was so old and leaky that the Norwegian authorities only permitted them to sail under the promise that they would go at half-speed. Thus it took four days to cross to England, twice the usual time. Sevrine crossed England to Glasgow, Scotland, and laid over a day there before sailing. His ocean boat was the Anchor Line "Dominia", a cattle boat. The grub was poor but they had nice weather for the crossing.

Sevrine landed in New York on May 17. The train out of there was made up of box cars with planks placed lengthwise of the car for seats. He went west by way of Indianapolis and before he reached his destination to Illinois, had a better train to ride on.¹ He went to Paxton, Illinois, where his first cousin Tormud Thompson was located. Not finding work there he went to Tollef in the Rantoul-Thomasboro vicinity and worked for two years. He then hired out to another man for a year and when this man sold out and left for Badger, Webster County, Iowa, where he had relatives, Sevrine went along. This left Tollef and Ole Erickson the only remaining Norwegian settlers, as we have mentioned.

When Sevrine took out his first citizenship papers he entered his name as "Hundsnes". However the Americans made fun of it and couldn't pronounce it. They told him to change his name to "Thompson" and he did so, but always regretted it afterward.

Severin G. Thompson worked for his boss in Iowa for three years. His wages for these first six years in the New World, where he had come to make money, ran from \$15 to \$20 per month. He stayed around Badger for ten years, during which time he met and married Elsie Johnson. She was born in Champaign County, Illinois and had lived there and in Iowa before her marriage. She and Severin rented land in Badger Township and here they lost their first two children.

In 1899 Severin borrowed money from his cousin Tollef and went to Nobles County, southwestern Minnesota, where some of his acquaintances had gone and where land was cheaper than in Iowa. He purchased 80 acres

¹The western railroads have always provided better service and been more progressive than the eastern. As with the Kallecods in 1868, so now we see it in 1886.

on Section 28, Hersey Township, for \$20 per acre and sold it three years later for \$40. He then (1902) went to Norman County, northwestern Minnesota, and bought 174 acres in Section 6, Green Meadow Township.

Severin took a trip back to Norway in 1914 to visit relatives and friends. In 1926 he and Elsie retired to the town of Ada, Minnesota, where they are still living (1946).

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The fifth and last child born to Maren Guttormsdatter Musland and Tormud Sjurson Hundsnes was called Burnla. She married Stender Olson Kallecod who was born on Bettchen, a husmannplass on Kallecod. Bettchen was closer to the sea than Ole Kallecod's place, which was higher up. Right after their marriage they moved to Haugesund and rented a house; and here their four children were born: Severen, Antonetta Marie, Stena Burdina Guripa Emalina, and Theodore.

Stender Olson¹ was a sailor all of his life. It is said that he sailed on boats between England and America and also that he was a coast pilot working out of Haugesund. The probability is that he did the former before his marriage and perhaps for a short time afterward and then, as family duties increased, he secured work nearer home. Even as a coast pilot however he steered ships for a long way along the coast, perhaps going as far as Trondheim with one boat and then bringing another one back. He had a government license to do this.

Burnla and the girls came out from Haugesund to visit her brother Guttorm and family at Hundsnes every summer. There was a road for only part of the way between Haugesund and Hundsnes so they either came by boat or across country by carjol or stolkjerre (types of cart).

Stender² was a heavy set man. He died in Haugesund and is buried there. Burnla continued to live with her three children Tunetta, Stena, and Theodore, until she died around 1900 when up in her seventies. She was a heavy set woman of medium height and dark hair.³

Stender's and Burnla's oldest child was named Severen. He took to the sea as his father had done, probably shortly after his confirmation (usually at the age of 14). When he was taking a major trip out of Haugesund one time he fell from the rigging and one of his eyes was injured by a bolt. He was rather a wild young chap and was not going ashore to have it taken care of but they made him go to a hospital. He caught the boat in England later but had lost the sight in that eye.

After being out for two or three years Severen took sick on board and the crew had to leave him in Australia. A telegram was sent to Norway announcing that he was sick and a later one bore the news that he had died. He was buried in Australia but the location is not known to us. It is rather pathetic to think of this young cousin, probably not yet twenty years old, dying alone without parents or family for comfort, and in the furthest corner of the globe from his homeland, Norway.

Severen's sister, Antonetta Marie, learned and plied the dressmaker's trade in Haugesund before she was married. After this she and her husband went to live at Nukling, a mining town, where the silver mine in which he worked was located. This was not far from Haugesund but they moved back to the latter place after a short time. Both "Tunetta" and her husband died when young, he, only a few years after their marriage. Both are probably buried in Haugesund.

The third child, Stena Burdina Gurina Emalina Stendersdatter Olsen,⁴ on the day of her christening, undoubtedly laid safe claim to the

¹The farm name was frequently dropped when a family moved to the city or a man became a sailor. Sometimes some of the children in a family took the father's last name (Olson, e.g.) and others their own patronymic (Stenderson, e.g.)

²Sometimes referred to as "Stenert".

³The compiler hopes that the reader will appreciate that with only fragmentary information available in many cases, it was not always possible to write a grammatically coherent paragraph.

⁴The spelling "Olsen" is here correct.

longest name among all the Ikdals for all succeeding generations and forever.

"Stena" was named for her father, Stender; "Burdina" for her mother, Burnla; "Gurina" was after her Uncle Guttorm; and "Emalina" -- well, "Emalina" was perhaps added for her own personal use or else for good luck. But to sum it all up she was mostly known as "Stena".

When Stena was still a little girl, perhaps eight or ten, a boil appeared on her hip and troubled her for many years. It finally healed but that leg did not grow like the other and when she reached maturity it was necessary to wear a cork sole and heel on her shoe. She always walked with a limp. She was a dressmaker (1866-1870) but did not ply the trade as much as her sister Tunetta. Stena stayed at her Uncle Guttorm's in the country for two years at one time, when ill. In 1914 she was keeping house for her brother Theodore near the center of Haugesund.

Theodore, the youngest of Stender and Burnla Olson's children, liked birds as a lad and kept a pigeon box. He learned the carpenter trade and worked in a carpenter's shop even before he was confirmed. As a man he had his own knickersverkstad, a sort of made-to-order furniture store, as most of them were, -- a combination of work-shop and store. Although Theodore imported some furniture, he made most of it; chairs, tables, commodes, etc. By the time he was about 60 (in 1914), he was bothered by a kind of palsy which made him shake too much to do any carpentry himself but he had three or four boys helping him. Theodore never married and was living with Stena in 1914.

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It will be recalled that after the death of her first husband, Tormud Sjurson Hundsnes, Maren Guttormsdatter Musland remarried Tollef Tollefson Kallecod. By him she had two more children, Karena and Serena, the younger, both born on Hundsnes.

Karena Tollefsdatter Hundsnes was "the best looking of the lot", we are told, and retained her good looks even after she had four children. She married when quite young, Bjoren Bjorenson Topnes II, who was many years her senior and who had previously been married to her Ikdal second cousin, Seri Segvesdatter Sandvik. (See Chapter XXIV)

Topnes, Nerstrand Parish, was not "extra" as a farm but was a good sized place with some timber and supported about twelve cows. The land slanted down to Nerstrandfjord on the southeast. Quite a few people lived on Topnes but Bjoren¹ was considered "tolerably well fixed", and "well-off".

When Bjoren was courting Karena he came by row boat. Some prankster (some younger rival, we bet) sank his boat one time and Bjoren never found it again. It was a long way from Topnes to Hundsnes and we can't help but wonder how Bjoren and Karena ever got acquainted. But "naetheless" time brought around the day set for the splicing.

The wedding was quite an affair as we might expect when a man well established in life takes unto himself a bride -- and a young, pretty, and smart one at that. Nephew Tollef Kallecod was sent clear to Haugesund -- walking every step of the way -- to get the cake. This was called sostrecaka, and was an elaborate affair which probably cost as much as \$2. It was three stories high and was handsomely decorated with wavy lines and what-nots while the foot-sore Tollef watched the process. The wedding was held at Topnes and attended by many people from all over. Ole and Maren Kallecod went but their son Tollef stayed home. It is just possible that he was too tired.

Bjoren already had four or five children (also Ikdals) by his first wife, and by Karena he had four more: Knute, Maren, Seri, and Randi.² Karena was a hard-working, "more than uncommon bright" woman, who could quote the preacher, the Bible, and so on. She died on Topnes probably

¹Bjoren's father, Bjoren I, was said to be "a peculiar man" though in what respect I do not know.

²The order of age here is not certain. In fact I have only sketchy information concerning Bjoren's children.

in the first decade of the twentieth century. Bjoren¹ was a short heavy-set man. He developed a cancer on his jaw bone, probably after Karena's death, and had to have an operation. The bone was removed from one ear to the middle of his chin. But two wives, nine children, cancers, operations, his two only sons lost in America, and other bad worries were taken in stride by Bjoren Topnes, who was destined for a long life and stuck to it. He amazed the neighborhood and lived to be around 100 years old or older² before he died. He was buried in Nerstrand, probably with Karena.

Karena's oldest child by Bjoren Topnes was apparently Knute. Knute and his half-brother Bjoren Bjorenson Topnes III came to America around 1885 and were never heard from afterward. They thus enter the realm of conjecture. There is some thought that they came to Ottawa, but the boys never wrote home after arriving in America. Their father, when visited in Norway in 1914, said that they might have gone to Alaska with gold rush fever. But it was believed that he was merely guessing.

At his request an attempt was made to locate them here in America. An advertisement was placed in Viserguten³ and another in the Salvation Army paper but without result. The compiler has also, of course, made several attempts⁴ to locate these two Topnes cousins but remains as yet unsuccessful. The name "Topnes" is unusual in America and it is intriguing to think that there may be two families of relatives here about whom we know nothing. In the case of Serena Tormudsdatter Hundsnes we feel reasonably sure that she left no issue; but Knute and Bjoren Topnes very probably married. However for the present at least we shall have to admit that we are lost on a Hundsnes twig.

Karena's second child was Maren. She married Ole Amdal. There are two Amdals in Nerstrand and one each in Skjold and Tysvaer and we do not know definitely to which family Ole belongs. It was probably the one nearest Topnes in Nerstrand and we will describe it in Chapter XXVII. Ole and Maren lived on Topnes which Maren apparently inherited. This may have been because both of Bjoren's sons were lost in America and no inheritance passed to his daughters by his first marriage because he had remarrying ideas. Maren, together with her infant, died in child birth and after Bjoren's death the property passed to the son-in-law, Ole Topnes.

After Maren came Randi and Seri. They were dressmakers and in 1914 were renting an upstairs near the center of Stavanger. One of Randi's children was raised by Johanna and Kolben Hervik's daughter, Malinda, and husband, Bardenius Gudmundson Hervik, as they had no children of their own. Randi married a machinist in Stavanger, Andreas Voll, and Seri married a man by the name of Hapnes.

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Maren Hundsnes' youngest child was Serena, the younger. She married Albert Løning or, according to most accounts, Albert Albertson(?) Oskeland. There is some possibility that he was born on Løning and his parents moved to Oskeland shortly afterward. Both gaards were in Tysvaer. Oskeland lay above Rossedal,⁵ through which one had to walk in order to reach it, and it lay west of Hervik. The farm kept five or

¹An older member of our family referred to him as Bjol Topnes. I cannot explain this but there is no doubt that the names apply to the same man.

²Yet if he were considerably older than Karena, or was born about the same time as his first wife, and lived about 1930 as reported, he would have been more like 110 years old. It is too bad we do not have his exact dates.

³A name which should be recognized as that of a former, mid-western Norwegian newspaper.

⁴A Henry T. Topnes, Seattle, a Tollef Topnes, Dallas, Wisconsin, an Esther and a Sidney Topnes of Minneapolis, and a Martin Topnes of Rugby, North Dakota, did not prove to be members of our family. If any descendant knows of any other Topnes families, by all means let me know

⁵In which the compiler is naturally much interested.

six cows and had a few birch but no pine trees. Albert inherited it as he was the oldest of his family.

Albert and Serena were married just about a week before the death of Serena's mother Maren. Serena was not as talented as her sister Karena but she stayed close to home and took good care of her mother who became quite old and feeble before she died. The marriage took place in church and Albert and Serena lived on Hundsnes for a short time on account of Maren's health. They then moved to Oskeland. Albert was never well due to some affliction, possibly stomach cancer in the lower part of his stomach, but he was able to handle the farm work most of the time. He was a great talker and there was "lots of fun in him". He was rather slight in build but both he and Serena were tall. He was quite a lot younger than she but he died when only around forty years old. Burial was in Tysvaer. Serena¹ lived to be a very old lady and was up in her 90s when she died -- older than any of her brothers or sisters. She spent her later life with her son Albert.

Of the children of Serena, the younger, we know very little. There was one son, Albert, and three girls, all young in 1886. In 1914 Albert III was farming Oskeland, having recently been married. He was about 35 years old.

CHAPTER VIII

Wherein we both go off to the wars and become acquainted with a Quaker philanthropist

Now as we observed in Chapter II Seri Guttormsdatter Erland married her neighbor Vilum Vilumson Erland II. They had seven children all born on that half of Erland known as Østregaard: two girls deceased in infancy, Vilum III, Maren, Lars, Guttorm, and Anna Serena.

Vilum Vilumson Erland III (born 1806) inherited his father's half of Østregaard.² He married Cecilia ("Ses'e la") Aursland according to one account while another relative states that his wife came from a husmannsplass on Erke,³ Skjold, but her name was not Erke. Vilum was a man of medium height. He was quite a homebody and would send to town for purchases with others rather than go himself. Beginning the first of January, many farmers went fishing for about three months, but not William. Cecilia washed wool and carded it, and spun and made cloth. They had six children: Serena, Vilum IV, Lars, Halvor, Severt, and Marie. Both parents lived to be quite old. Cecilia had a stroke and Vilum took care of her until she died in 1896 or 1897. Vilum died in the home of Vilum IV at the age of 99, the oldest of his family, and was buried in Skjold kirkegaard.⁴

¹The name "Sura" has been used in connection with Serena but I could not get any confirmation of it.

²A farm is usually inherited at about the age of 22 or 23 and the inheritor does not have to be married to receive his inheritance.

³Erke or Yrke will be discussed in a later chapter.

⁴Generally speaking the churches in the parishes of the region are in the center of the parish and the burying places are around the church. Land is very scarce and so they bury again on the same plot but they are required to wait a number of years. Ole Sevig reported having seen the bones of those disinterred.

HEIMMEGAARD	no fence	ØSTREGAARD
1.Guttorm Osmund(?)son Ikdal Musland Erland		1.Vilum Vilumson Erland I
2.Osmund Guttormson Musland Erland Meling		2.Vilum Vilumson Erland II
		3.Vilum Vilumson Erland III
		4.Vilum Vilumson Erland IV
		5.Severt Vilumson Erland

		1.Vilum Vilumson Erland I
		2.Johannes Vilumson Erland Bjoland
		3.Ingebret Johanneson Bjoland
		4.Johannes Ingebretson Erland
		5. _____ Johanneson Erland

INTERRELATIONSHIPS

1.Guttorm Osmund(?)son Ikdal Musland Erland(1765?)		1.Vilum Vilumson Erland I (1753?)
2.Seri Guttormsdatter Musland Erland(1785?)	←m.→	1.Vilum Vilumson Erland II (1786)
		2.Johannes Vilumson Erland Bjoland (1773?)
3.Maren Vilumsdatter Erland (1808)	←m.→	1.Ingebret Johanneson Bjoland Erland (1793)
		2.Vilum Johanneson Bjoland Erland Halleland (1796)
2.Maren Ingebretsdatter Erland (1843)	←m.→	1.Vilum Vilumson Halleland (William Williamson)(1843)

Serena Vilumsdatter Erland, the oldest child, married Morton (or Hans?) Mortveit. About this couple we know nothing except that they lived in Skjold and there is a farm Morktveit east of Skjold gaard between the Skjold and Aal Fjords.

The second child¹ was Vilum Vilumson Erland IV born about 1843. He inherited Ostregaard, Erland and married (after 1866) Malene Baarsdatter Egge who was considerably his senior. Malene was the daughter of Baar Baarson Hømelstø, who had removed to Egge.² There were two gaards on Egge(or Eggja), which was located east of Skjold Church near the northeast corner of the Skjoldafjorden. The couple had no children and after Malene died Vilum built a new house and married again to an elderly widow named Karoline. He was what is termed a handy man, excelling in various handcrafts. The chief of these was the making of wooden shoes and he usually kept 500 or 600 pairs on hand. People would come from far and near to buy shoes. Vilum also made and sold chairs and baskets. Vilum and Malina(?) were still farming in 1914 but spoke of retiring soon. They subsequently sold the farm to Vilum's young-

¹The oldest according to one source.

²Malene had two brothers, Jon and Mons. "Egge" is pronounced "eg ga!"

er brother Severt shortly before 1930¹ but Vilum continued to live on the farm as a husmann until his death in about a year.

Lars Vilumson Erland was the third child. In his youth he learned the trade of barrelmaker; and then married Karena Roaldsdatter Grinde² and lived on Vaggeli. Vaggeli was a small farm located between Sövig and Grinde to the south of the Grindefjord. It fed seven cows and a horse. Lars worked at his trade of barrel making in town in the winter time except for the busy season when they put up salted herring. He and Karena had six children of which three boys came to America at the beginning of the century. Let us pause briefly and see if the reasons given for their migration are different from those we discussed for Os-mund Meling and Guttorm Aursland 70 years before.

The economic factor and the lack of opportunity were still the basic reason for migration. Vaggeli was a small farm and there were six children. Lars was still able to farm and there was no inheritance in view. There was not much chance for young people in Norway unless they could go to school, that is, go further than grammar school. The oldest boy took to the sea and became ships captain on a company ship out of Haugesund. The other three boys all hoped to come to America, make money, and go back to Norway and start a business. A minor factor may have been a certain straitlacedness in the Norwegian parental attitudes toward the use of free time. Some older folks played cards such as whist and the young folks danced on the road. But generally speaking cards and dancing were frowned upon and Lars and Karena were no exception. Another perhaps unrealized reason for the boys' migration was probably the death of Karena and Lars' remarriage. Even among un-attached youth migration was a serious step and sometimes led to tragedy. The youngest son was betrothed before leaving Norway. His brothers did not return to the fatherland because they learned to like America but Cupid was too strong an attraction for the youngest and he went back to Stavanger Amt. Alas, he was just a little too late. His fiancée was married to another man on the very day he landed in Norway.

Lars' second marriage took place when he was about 57 years old but his bride was only about 30. She was Martha Amdal from the gaard Amdal just across the parish line in Tysvaer sogn to the south. By Martha, Lars had seven or eight more children. In late 1940, at the age of 92 or 93, Lars Vilumson Vaggeli was still spry and active and able to go visiting.

The fourth in the family of Vilum Vilumson Erland III and his wife Cecilia, was Halvor. He married Cecilia Sjursdatter Aakland. Aakland or Okkland was in Skjold to the southeast of the Grindefjord and was about average as a farm. Cecilia's father was a school teacher in his younger days and was called Skulasjur. He was a great friend of Gunder Olson Sevig (see post) and they corresponded after the latter came to America. Halvor and Cecilia lived on Aakland after their marriage and had five or six children, of which one was called Cecilia after her mother. Her husband was a man by the name of Yektevik. He had been to America, returned to Norway to marry her, did so, tried to get her to go to America with him, failed, came himself, finally gave up getting her to follow, and divorced her.³ Of the other children Halvor was supposed to have worked around Story City, Iowa in 1910; and Vilum(?) and Gud-mund(?) (or "Gilbert") were supposed to have been in America for a few years and returned.⁴ In 1914 the parents were still living on Aakland with the oldest son Vilum. Vilum died about the same time as his mother.

Syvert was the fifth child of Vilum Vilumson Erland III. His wife's name was Enga. They lived first on Krapø, or Kreppene (pronounced "kroe'-ppedne"), then on Ure (in 1914), and finally on the home farm, Erland,

¹Or to Vilum's brother's son, Tollef, according to another account.

²There was a settlement called Grinde at the southwest corner of the Grindefjord. Karena was probably from this gaard, which may also have been the site of the Ole Erland Old Peoples Home mentioned later on.

³He then remarried. He is reported to have a brother-in-law by the name of Olaus or Ole Rorheim, who was an elevator operator in a Chicago store around 1930. ⁴In 1927 a Severin Oakland came with William Olson from Badger, Iowa to attend Knute Nolan's funeral.

which they purchased from Syvert's older brother, Vilum Vilumson Erland IV, shortly before 1930. (But cf. account of Vilum IV ante, and footnote.)

After Syvert came Ellen Marie, the youngest. About her we know nothing except that she married a man from Sveien.

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Maren Vilumsdatter Erland of the fourth generation, fourth child of Seri Guttormsdatter Erland and Vilum Vilumson Erland II, married her neighbor Ingebret Johanneson Erland, Born Oct. 9, 1793. Ingebret and Maren were also first cousins, as Johannes Erland and Vilum Erland II were brothers. Johannes Erland had one part of Østregaard and Vilum the other but it is not clear to us just when or why the farm was divided. Vilum Vilumson Erland I owned all of Østregaard, it is believed, and we should expect that Vilum II, as the oldest, would receive all of it. Now Johannes owned part of it but our subject, Ingebret, his oldest son, was very probably born on the farm Bjoland since we know Ingebret's brother, Vilum Johanneson (Bjoland) Erland was born there three years later on Feb. 2, 1796. We also have it from another source that Ingebret was raised on Bjoland. It is also stated that Johannes and his wife died early in life and that Vilum Johanneson was taken and raised by his grandparents (Vilum Vilumson Erland I) on Erland in a folgahus? Sifting these various factors we wonder why Johannes bought Bjoland as early as he did if he inherited part of Østregaard. If he were thinking of a separate inheritance for his oldest son, Ingebret, why did he not wait until the children were grown? And who was living on his share of Østregaard meanwhile?

Ingebret Johanneson Bjoland had an interesting career and is the only one of our forefathers to inspire a biographer among our older generations. This biography was written by his son-in-law, Vilum Vilumson Halleland, and was edited by his brother-in-law, the school-teacher, Gunder Olson Sevig. Unfortunately the original has not been unearthed and probably no copies were ever made.

Ingebret was a short, powerfully built man. His arms were abnormally long in proportion to his trunk and since his legs were short his hands hung below his knees. The ceiling of his house on Erland was very low and Ingebret was one of the few men who could walk under it comfortably.

He saw long service in the European wars waged at the beginning of the nineteenth century. Norway was united with Denmark at the time and since Denmark was a supporter of Napoleon, she was at odds with England. England blockaded the Norwegian ports and nearly starved the people. Norwegian ships tried to run the blockade and get into Denmark to get grain but the English men-of-war would intercept them and take Norwegians as prisoners. Ingebret was one of these and he was taken to England and interned in one of the prison boats for which that country was famous. The Quakers came on board to preach and while it is not known what impression was made on Ingebret, it is a fact that at least two of his children adopted the faith.

Ingebret also served with the Danish fleet on a gunboat. They had a notoriously mean captain. One day in target practice the boys put a double dose of powder into the cannon because the captain was to fire it. The cannon blew up and killed him -- cut him right in two. However most of the sailors thought he got what he deserved.

Following the disastrous War of 1813, the treaty of Kiel in 1814 forced Denmark to resign Norway to Sweden. Norway refused to recognize the treaty and Sweden invaded Norway to enforce it. Ingebret also fought in this war -- the war of Norwegian Independence. Norway was destitute of means for prosecuting the war and had to accept the Swedish proposals for a union. Although the Norwegians were to enjoy full liberty and independence within their own boundaries, Ingebret related how they did not feel that they had obtained what they wanted when they received orders to lay down their arms. They were so mad that they smashed their guns to pieces. Ingebret was a great "tobacco chewer and spitter" and we can imagine the punctuation which he gave to the following statement: "I got so mad at the Swedes that I could eat them alive."

When Ingebret returned from the wars to settle down on the farm

of Erland he was about 25 years old. It is said that he had plenty of money so he must have been frugal. He took possession of his part of Østregaard at once, including half of the house and barn. He broke up lots of new land and improved the place a good deal, marking time until his first cousin Maren was old enough to marry.

The wedding occurred when Maren was 17 or 18 years old or sometime between 1824 and 1826 when Ingebret would be between 31 and 33. The ceremony was in the home of the bride's parents -- that side of the house on Østregaard belonging to Vilum Vilumson Erland II. Afterward the shortest wedding trip known in the history of the Ikdals took place, for Maren merely walked from her father's part of the house into that part belonging to the new bridegroom.

Maren and Ingebret led a busy, fruitful, and long life together. They are said to have had ten children but the names of only nine have come down to us: Johannes, Vilum, Seri or Serena, Gudmund, Ivar, Maren, Ingebret, Ole, and Jakob. Maren was 35 when she gave birth to her sixth(?) child, Maren. In spite of the size of the family it was not until Ingebret was quite old that an addition was built on the house -- an addition that had a ceiling of normal height. The couple enjoyed 65 years of married life before death claimed Ingebret in 1890 at the age of 97. Maren lived 16 years longer and died at the age of 98 or 99.¹

Johannes ("Johans" in pronunciation) Ingebretson Erland inherited his father's half of Østregaard, Erland.² His brother Vilum became a husmann on Dalestoke, a husmannplass on Mehus, a farm in Skjold near Ikdal. He was called Vilum Dalestrantu. Gudmund lived in Stavanger and was an ardent Quaker. Most of these Erland children did not inherit the longevity of their parents and died young -- in their forties. Every one in the family had deceased by 1914 except Ingebret and Ole. (See post.)

Maren Ingebretsdatter Erland, born October, 1843, came to America and we are therefore able to present an account of her life.³ When she was old enough, reads this account, "she went to the neighborhood school, played with her classmates, tramped the mountains in search of blueberries, and in the winter spent much time upon the ice. As Maren grew she learned the arts of buttermaking, cooking, spinning and weaving. She became an expert spinner and weaver and her cloth was of the finest. She was an unexcelled housekeeper and no neater one was to be found in all the neighborhood. She grew to be tall, straight, of excellent carriage, and had very light golden hair and bright blue eyes. Her features were somewhat irregular.

There were few good roads in those days and travel was by skiff and boat. On Sundays all would be seated in Skiffs paddling across the fjord to the Lutheran Church [Skjold] where Maren sang in the choir. The Sabbath was very quiet for no games of any kind were permitted".

Maren's mother Maren had married her father's nephew, Ingebret, as we have seen. Maren followed in the maternal footsteps and married her father's nephew, Vilum Vilumson Halleland. This Vilum (or Wilhelm) was a son of the Vilum Johanneson Bjoland Erland Halleland,⁴ already mentioned. Vilum Johanneson Halleland's⁵ wife was Martha Osterm⁶ and they

¹Her date of birth is given both as 1807 and June of 1808.

²In 1914 a grandson was farming the place.

³For which we are indebted to William Williamson who took it down from William Williamson, (In Norwegian, Wilhelm Wilhelmson Halleland)

⁴Where farm names are thus pyramided, it is for the purpose of identification only, indicating successively the farms on which the individual lived. Of course Vilum only used one farm name at any given time. The farm name "Uhr" or "Ure" is also mentioned in connection with Vilum Vilumson Halleland. The spelling "Wilhelm" is also given.

⁴The records of this family were destroyed when the church parsonage was burned about 1780, according to tradition. This would mean the records of the family leading back to Vilum Vilumson Erland I and must mean the Skjold parsonage. If this is true the tracing back of all the old Ikdal lineages passing through farms in the parish of Skjold -- considerable in number -- would be impossible prior to 1780.

⁵Osterm was some distance from Erland and across the fjord. Martha's

had nine children of which Vilum was the seventh and the only one to come to America. On the whole this family was very vigorous. One sister lived to be 100 years lacking 17 days, another 100 years lacking 14 days, and a third lived to be past 90. Vilum, our subject, lived to be about 95, a brother past 90, and another brother 85. Indeed we are commencing to believe that in the Erland family one was expected to live to be at least a nonagenarian unless he contracted some disease. Hallelaland was about eight miles from Erland across the fjord (Skjoldafjord) and was rather high up.

"Very little cash was needed to raise this family" continues our account. "There were cattle and sheep, plenty of butter, cheeses, and cream. Hay was one of the principal crops. On the lowland they raised oats, rye, barley, and vegetables. From the mountain, birch, spruce, and pine were cut for winter fuel. When additional cash was needed a cow or sheep was sold or the father would help build some of the numerous fences for which he was well paid.

"Wilhelm" (Vilum),² the seventh child, as a youth played with the neighbor boys, climbing the steep mountains, wading the clear cold streams, playing among the trees, listening to the many birds of which he was very fond. In winter he had grand times upon the ice. Girls were not permitted to skate in those days but were always present. The boys would place their hands upon the girls' shoulders and push them across the ice as fast as they could go. 'Great sport', said Father Williamson when he told of it later with a twinkle in his eyes.

"He attended the country school which he considered not quite up to standard. When he was 18 he had his share of work to do on the farm, and also had to help the other farmers. He joined his Uncle's fishing fleets on the first of January when the cod and herring began their annual runs and did not return home until April. He hated the rough men and cold sea and after seven winters quit the sea for good. Haugesund was the center of the fishing mart where they took the catch. The town was rough and wild. There was much drinking and carousing among the sailors and Wilhelm, who was careful in his habits and temperate, disliked it greatly".

Maren and Wilhelm were practically the same age, both having been born in October of 1843 and they were married when they were 28. "The marriage took place in the Lutheran Church across the fjord, an ancient structure built when Norway first embraced the Christian faith. It was a very substantial building of huge logs, boarded up on the outside and carved and ornamented. At the time of the wedding the church was 500 years old. This old classic was later torn down by the younger generation and a new church built. Wilhelm never ceased to regret its destruction.

"Maren wanted to secure a farm and live in Norway. Wilhelm had heard from his Iowa cousins³ and decided that was where he would like

parents died when she was very young, although she could remember her father. She was raised by her oldest brother at Osterm, which had been in the family for so many years that the record was lost. This brother was a big, tall man, dignified, with hair hanging to his shoulders, and was noted for his kindness and benevolence. He enjoyed nearly 70 years of married life and died when well over 90.

¹The Hallelaland children were Johannes, 1828(past 90); Martha, 1830(past 90); Siri, 1833(45); Sampson, 1835(85); Anna, 1837(100 years, lacked 17 days); Sonneva, 1840(100 years, lacked 14 days); Vilum, 1843(close to 95); Martha Sineva, 1847(1); Jakob, Mar. 14, 1850(28-tuberculosis). Johannes secured a farm of his own so Hallelaland went to Sampson, who became the wealthy member of the family. Having no children he adopted a nephew of his wife who got the farm and established a trading post on it near a crossroads. When better roads were built the trade passed to Haugesund and Stavanger and Hallelaland passed into the hands of strangers.

²He also spelled it Viliam.

³Later referred to as the Olsons but they may have been relatives on the Osterm side as his Ikdal cousins -- the Søvig-Olsons did not go to Iowa until 1874. However they were in America in 1868 and it is quite possible that they were the cousins referred to.

to live. Maren offered little objection to the move. They sailed from Stavanger on a sailing ship in mid-morning on a bright day, May 24, 1872. After two clear days they encountered heavy head winds and for days made very little progress. At that time vessels leaving Norway were of the sail type. Steamships sailed from England. There were 200 passengers aboard, most of whom did their own cooking in a special room provided for that purpose.

Fortunately the log of the journey has been preserved for us, and follows:

Log of Journey of William Williamson, by Ship
From Norway to Quebec by Sailing Vessel
And From Quebec to Le Grand, Iowa, by Rail¹

"On the 24th of May, 1872, we stood out to sea from Stavanger. On the 25th we could still see the coast of Norway outlined by the cliffs. We encountered a southwest wind and headed northward. On the 26th and 27th, we had a storm from the west and reefed all sail except a small jib. On the night of the 29th everything that stood on the Tysen deck was scattered helter-skelter down the sides of the ship and the people on board had to hasten on deck and make fast their baggage and belongings. On the afternoon of the 28th the wind went down, but we had been driven far to the north. On the 29th we again had a storm from the southwest. On the 30th we came in sight of the Faeroe Islands that lie 60 miles northwest of Trondhjem.² We crossed over and stood to the south. We were so near the land that we could see the mountains which were very high and descended precipitously to the sea, but above and beyond the mountains the land appeared to be green.

"On the 31st of May and the 1st day of June we had a favoring wind, but on June 2nd at 3 o'clock in the afternoon we had a raging storm-squall, and in that hour my wife Maren gave birth to her first-born son.

"On the 3rd we had a good wind. On the 4th it was comparatively still but with a head wind. On the 5th and 6th we had a storm from the northwest. During the storm our foremast sail and jib were torn to shreds. The wind continued from the northwest on the 7th and 8th. On the 9th and 10th it was from the west. On the 11th we had favoring winds. I now skip to the 18th when the banks of Newfoundland hove into view. We sounded and found we had 30 fathoms of water. On the 19th and 20th we were becalmed and drifted. On the second day we lowered a boat and caught about 100 cod and haddock so that everyone on board was lavishly served with fish. By the 22nd the east coast of Newfoundland was in sight. There we saw in several directions, many icebergs floating about, especially along the shore. The land appeared to be very mountainous, particularly so near the seashore. Inland we observed houses and green valleys.

"On the 23rd and 24th we had an unusually dense mist, or fog as some people call it. We could not see the least distance from us, and had missed running aground by a hair's breadth on the 24th. I do not believe our ship was more than a schooner's length from the land when a great cry arose that we would be stranded and that the ship would have to be raised. The impending danger threw the people into a state of great consternation and confusion. I, for my part, was not scared for long nor was Maren, but many others were so frightened that they cried aloud and sprang upon deck. They imagined the danger was much greater than it really was.

"After we left Newfoundland, it was very calm and the wind and ocean was like that of a land-locked fjord, though the little wind we had was mostly with us.

"On the 27th we sighted the island of Anticosti. It lies near Gaspe in Canada but we did not come close enough so that we could determine its character. It looked rough and mountainous near the ocean. On the east end of the island we saw a lighthouse, which appeared to be

¹Translated by Ida Williamson in collaboration with William Williamson, Jr. ²The Norwegian mile is about seven American miles in length.

mostly white and a few white houses.

"On the 29th we had land on each side of us, but at so great a distance that we could not see from one shore line to the other. By July 1st we had sailed so far into the Gulf of St. Lawrence that we could see land on both sides. The land was Canada. The region appeared high and mountainous. On the 2nd day of July we received our supplies and were then so close to land that we could see that it had both mountains and valleys and that dense forests extended farther than eye could reach. Except near the sea, the mountain tops looked naked. The sandy beach appeared terraced down to the ocean. On the 7th we arrived at quarantine and on the 8th reached Quebec.

"After dinner on the 10th, we landed and went to a large emigrant house. That evening at 11 o'clock we boarded the train. On the 13th we crossed a big flooded area, and on the morning of the 15th arrived at Chicago. On the 16th we reached our final destination at Le Grand.

"Ocean trip: 6 weeks and 3 days.

"At Quebec: 2 days.

"From Quebec to Chicago: 5-1/2 days.

W.W.H.

W. Williamson
N. Williamson¹

The Olsons did not know of their arrival and failed to meet the train when they reached their destination. They were taken in charge by a land agent who took them to his home where they had an opportunity to do a much needed washing and cleaning up. For this they were most grateful. The agent was quite anxious to have new settlers and helped when he could.

They took a farm 75 miles south of the Olsons near New Sharon where the country was a little less wooded and part of the land cleared. A clear, sluggish stream ((Skunk River?)) ran near by, which the settler did not know was the cause of much ague. William rented the farm as all the homesteads had been taken and he did not have enough money to buy it. "He worked for the railroad for a couple days at \$1.10 per day. He then worked for an old farmer, who also owned coal mines, and lived on one of his farms four miles east of town. They lived on at New Sharon for ten years during which time five more children were born.

In January of 1882 William went to central southern South Dakota and filed a claim on a quarter section in Section 10, Hopper Township, Aurora County, six miles east and one and one-half south of Plankinton and about six miles from Mt Vernon. He wrote back to Maren of the 'fine and beautiful land.' The waving tall grass of the prairie reminded him of the sea. In April or May the entire family moved to South Dakota. William built a house, broke some land, and planted a crop. It proved to be a dry year and most of the crop was lost.

That summer the little girl, Mary, was very ill, which added to Maren's burdens. The child recovered but had to learn to walk and talk again. The following winter the mother was not well but carried on her household duties. On May 16, 1883 she gave birth to a daughter who was named Josephine. The mother did not recover from her illness and died May 25, 1883. The baby died on June 4th. Maren was buried at Plankinton.

After struggling for three years to keep the family together, farm, and keep house, William again married. His bride was Matilda Finestad, a Quaker girl of 24, tall, strong, dark eyed and ravenhaired. Maren had also been a Quaker and William had joined at Mt Vernon, which was not surprising since he had been more nearly affiliated with the Society of Friends in Norway than with the Lutherans, whose faith was professed by his parents. From this marriage, William had seven children, making a total of thirteen. Matilda died in 1912 and in 1917 William retired to a house he had purchased in Mitchell, South Dakota, where he lived with the children or alone. He spent the latter years of his life with his daughter Clara at Edgerton, Wisconsin, or with his son

¹On the left hand margin on the first page of the log the author signed his name as "W.W. Halleland". The "N" is for "Norske".

William at Oacoma and Rapid City, South Dakota. He died at the latter place and is buried at Plankinton.

William was a rather quiet man. He took plenty of time making up his mind on a question. He wrote pretty good Norwegian and occasionally wrote short letters for publication in the newspaper Skandinaven. His son William Jr. tried to persuade him to go back to Norway on a visit one time and even offered to take him, but it was to no avail. He said that the people he had known would all be old or dead and that it would be like going back to visit a graveyard.

Engebret Engebretson Erland, brother of Maren, and the seventh? child, grew into a short, heavy set man who farmed most of his life. He was a chum of his first cousin, William Olson Sevig(see post). In 1914 he was living with a daughter in Stavanger, having lost his wife. He was then 71.

Ole Engebretson Erland, the eighth? child (born 1847 or 1848) was the only one beside his sister Maren to come to America. He lived a quiet Quaker life and is the only known philanthropist in our family.

In Norway Ole Erland, when a young man, worked for Andrew Dahl, a rich Quaker, helping him to run his dairy farm at Stavanger. In 1886 Ole came to America and went to work for the Milwaukee Railroad in South Dakota. He was a very neat man, a nice dresser, and handsome, but he suffered an infection in one leg and it was taken off below the knee. Then it had to be amputated just above the knee and finally below the hip. He left South Dakota and went to St. Paul where he was fitted with an artificial leg.

In St. Paul Ole worked for a Dr. Stewart as caretaker of his home. He also mowed lawns for the neighbors. He wanted to build a little house of his own on the Doctor's place near his barn and he was permitted to do this. When the Doctor died, his wife asked Ole to stay on. When she died the property was sold but the new owner allowed Ole to continue living in his little home.

Ole Erland was a thrifty man. He had left his first savings in a bank in Norway but in five or six years the bank went broke. It later was reorganized and his money began to accumulate at $2\frac{1}{2}\%$ compound interest. Meanwhile in America he accumulated money in two St. Paul banks. In his late years he wanted to make a will and asked a man how much it was to cost and received a reply of about \$5. Later when the man found out that it was to cover \$32,000 (all savings from day labor) he raised the fee to about \$25. This bothered Ole so he asked his nephew, William Williamson, to check on the man's honesty. William convinced him that the raise was quite in order.

Ole's nephew tried to get him to go and live at the old peoples' home where he could have some company. He always replied that he was happy where he was -- and independent. One day the neighbors happened to notice that Ole had not been seen about the yard recently. They found him sitting in a chair where he had peacefully entered his final sleep at the age of 82. He was laid to rest in Plankinton, South Dakota where his sister was buried. In his will he gave \$500 to those of his nieces and nephews who needed it but more than half of the money went to an old people's home back in Norway which was a building at Grinde,¹ Skjold. His bequest made it possible to finish the home and it is now called the Ole Erland Old Peoples Home.

This Quaker philanthropist is the only Ikdal to give his name to a public building so far as we know.

The youngest child of Ingebret and Maren Erland to reach maturity was Jakob. He was killed by lightning when a young man.

*** **

¹According to a second cousin once removed

The fifth child of Seri and Vilum Vilumson Erland II was called Lars. He married Karen (or Karil¹) Vaare Egge who was originally from the farm Vaare which lies near the center of the large peninsula separating the Skjold and Grinde Fjords and is between Bjoland and Nes. Karen had first married Baar (or Barney) Olson Egge, brother of Gunder Olson Sevig (See Chapter X) and by him had two children: Barney, and Serena. Baar died about a year after their marriage and when Karen married Lars Vilumson Erland, the family continued to live paa Egge. Lars and Karen had six children: Maren, Lina (Lava?), Karen, Laurentsa, Ingeborg, and Andreas.

Lars lived and died on Egge.

Barney and Serena came to America. For passage money Barney used that received from the sale of his odelret to Egge to his step-father Lars. Barney came over in 1860 and was in the Civil War for three years. As a soldier he had a very rough life, was held prisoner in a dungeon for a time, and was with Sherman on his famous march to the sea. He lived at Marseilles, Illinois, and died about 1915.²

Maren, the oldest child of the Ikdal blood, inherited Egge from her father, Lars. She married Erik Tveit from Oste Tveit, a gaard east of Skjold Church. Erik and Maren lived on Egge raising six sons and three daughters. In 1914 the oldest son had taken over the farm and the parents were living on folga in a folgahus only a few rods from his house.

Lina (Lava ?), the second daughter, married Torstein Nygaard from near Haugesund and had five children. Karen, the third child, married Karl Johan Høie. In 1914 they were living in Haugesund and he was working on streets -- laying pipe, etc. The fourth daughter, Laurentsa, married Evan Risanger from the farm by that name located less than a mile north of Skjold Church. Ingeborg, the next, came to America about 1880. Andreas, her brother, also came to America but was never heard from afterwards.³

CHAPTER IX

We learn how to put up sod, and find out how a Norwegian oats field winds up in the family flour barrel

The sixth child of Vilum Vilumson Erland II and Seri Guttormsdatter Erland, his wife, was Guttorm. He became the head of the Frevik branch of the Erlands.

As a young man Guttorm Vilumson Erland worked for a minister from "the northland" by the name of Herste who was transferred to "the eastland".⁴ With the family of this minister was a young hired girl named Olea, who may have been from Bergen. She and Guttorm fell in love, were

¹Karen usually became Kari ("Kar ee") in the spoken language.

²One of the Sevigs wrote back to Norway for the necessary birth records when Barney qualified for a pension.

³This information came only recently (1946) from Norway and was supplied by Sister Oline Egesdal, to whom we are indebted for much research in Norway on the Ikdal Genealogy. So thus we discover two more "mysteries" on the family tree -- Ingeborg Larsdatter Egge and Andreas Larson(en) Egge.

⁴This is the wording of tradition. Since Skjold was in the "Westland", the transfer must have followed his ministry in Skjold.

married, and went to live paal Tømervik.

Tømervik was a small place leased from a farmer named Kristen Frovik. In Norway when a young couple got married and had no land, they frequently leased some wild pasture land and the neighbors would help them fence it in with rocks and build a house. The lessee took the name of the gaard (e.g., Frovik) and paid "rent" to the owner thereof. Now if the lessee died without children, the land reverted to the owner of the farm. The lessee could sell the buildings but he usually sold to the owner of the farm so that the latter could release both buildings and land together.

Tømerik was a pretty little place with lots of timber. It was located on the northeast corner of the Skjoldafjord. Small and rocky, it supported only a few sheep and a couple cows but no horses. There was a very nice view from the farm as it was possible to look out over the fjord and the islands which lie within it. The land sloped down to the water to the northwest.

Guttorm and Olea lived most of their lives on Tomervik. They had five children: Karen Serina, Maren Johanna, Vilum, Sina Olina, and Gina Olea, who died when young. Guttorm was a big man and Olea was a little, short woman. He farmed and worked out by the day. Olea died first, in the home of her daughter, Karen. She died of heart trouble when in her 60s. Not a great deal was ever known about her family. After her death Guttorm lived with his son William and helped him farm. He also stayed with Karen and Sine. He died in Karen's home sometime after 1902.

Karen Serina Guttormsdatter Frovik married Lars Larson Vaagen, the oldest of three boys and two girls born to Lars and Marta Larson. Vaagen or Wogen was north of Skjold Church at the end of the Firresfjord, a branch of the Aalfjorden. The land on which Lars and Karen lived was farther up the hill from Vaagen and toward the east and was called Haraldsleevaagen (Haraldsiewogen). It was more level than Tømervik and less forested but it was about as rocky. It supported only a few sheep and a couple of cows.

On this tiny "acre -- more like a plass than a farm -- Karen and Lars Vaagen raised no less than ten children, -- out of thirteen which they brought into the world, and sometimes took care of grandpa and grandma in the bargain. Naturally this required the most rigid economy and a close cooperation among all members of the family. Let us outline some of the things that composed such economy.

Fishing provided both food for the table and money income for purchasing other necessities. The children caught the fish for the meals, and upon reaching the age of 14 went with the women folk to work over the new catch of the commercial fishing boats. These boats would unload along the fjords into buildings built conveniently near the landing places. The fish would be piled in great heaps on the floor. The women and young folks would kneel around this pile, nib the throat of each fish with a knife, and sort the fish -- usually herring -- into classes. The floor would get slippery with oil, blood, etc., and the workers wore wooden shoes and tied oilcloth around their legs. They were paid by the piece and so everyone rushed as fast as he or she could. The sorted fish were placed in barrels and reshipped.

For fuel the Vaagens (and others) burned peat sods. These were secured in low swampy places by cutting with a spade. After one layer of sods was taken up, a second, a third, a fourth, or perhaps a fifth layer was cut. Girls would take the sods a short distance away with forks where they would be left to dry (lying flat) for a week. Then two sods would be leaned up against each other to form an inverted "v" and be left in that manner for a week or two. If they thought it was going to rain the sods would have to be stacked. Finally each girl filled a basket with sods and by means of ropes over her shoulders carried it home on her back. The sods were stacked up at home and used for cooking and heating.² Before the advent of stoves cooking was done

¹ On.

² According to a slightly different method, after the "v" stacking the sods were placed in ricks of about 30 each. After a time they were placed in sheds with no sides for further drying.

in the fireplace over these sods. An iron rod placed vertically and fitted with notches held the kettles over the fire and at the right height required.

Then there was the harvest and the making of flour. When the oats were ready they were cut with a sickle. The workers then took a handful or two of oats and laid out a cross. More oats would be put on and then the whole affair would be tied up like a bundle. The oats were not shocked as in America but had to be fastened on poles because of the heavy rainfall. These poles were seven or more feet in length and were set into a hole in the ground and bolstered by a stone or two. The ends of the bundle ties were left to tie on to the poles. A bundle would be tied on each side until the top was reached, about six feet above the ground. Then one bundle was put on top for a cap. When the oats were dry each person would pick up a pole, by pushing the bundles a little to one side and carry it home to the barn where the stick would be withdrawn.

Threshing followed soon afterward. Two to four bundles would be laid on the barn floor for each person. Then flails -- ball-bat affairs with leather thongs -- were used to beat out the oats from the straw. The straw was then lifted to one side and the oats were shoveled up and put into a wide trough. This trough was not too heavy for one person to handle, however, and it was used to toss the oats up and down and get the dust and chaff out. The oats were put into a barrel and the winnowing process was later repeated.

When the oats were damp -- and, judging from my own August experiences in Norway this was usually the case -- they were dried over the fire in the kitchen. Bricks were built up around the fire and a piece of flat iron about two feet by four feet placed across the top. Then some more bricks were put around the edge of the iron to keep the oats in. The oats were scooped back and forth on the iron so that they would not scorch. Tree roots were sometimes used for fuel for drying the grain. When the oats were sufficiently dry they were put into sacks.

The sacks of oats were then carried on sturdy shoulders down to the Firresfjord and onto a boat which took them to Trovags mill. This was sort of a boat-house mill near the water. In the mill were two huge stones, one lying on the other and the bottom one a trifle larger than the top. The top stone was the one which turned by being connected to a vertical axle running to the water wheel lying horizontally in the bottom of the mill. The water was directed through a trough onto the wings of the wheel to make it turn. The mill stones would get dull once in a while and would then have to be "picked". This was an exacting job as they had to be picked just right. When in operation the stones could be adjusted for fine or coarse grinding. Above them was a bin for the oats with a spout leading down over a hole in the top stone. The flour would come out between the stones and fall over the edge of the bottom stone into bins. Some flour was not fine and a few oat awns were sometimes left in. Since the flour could not be mixed with the next customer's it was all scooped out of the bins and into fine meshed sacks. Taken home it was put into barrels in the store room and eventually wound up as "sour milk and mush" or mush and potato cakes.

Maren Johanna Guttormsdatter Frovik, the second child, came to America as a young woman of 20 and spent the remainder of her life here. She left Norway April 23, 1881 and arrived in Earlville, Illinois on May 14. She worked first for her Uncle Guder Olson Sevig and later for her father's first cousins, Osmund and Julia Thomason.

Meanwhile a young man whom Maren had known in Norway since she was about 14 years of age had also decided to come to America. He was David Larson Eggesdal, son of Lars and Olina Eggesdal. The gaard Eggesdal¹ was located in northern Vats parish, which occupies the eastern portion of Skjoldsogn. It was originally the landsman's gaard, that is, the gaard where the sheriff lived. David also came to the United States in the spring of 1881 and located in the Earlville-Leland vicinity. He worked for Thomas Thomason, brother of Osmund, and paid

¹Also spelled "Eikesdal" by Rygh, Norske Gaardnavne, Volume 10; and "Eggisdahl" (1723).

court to Maren driving a pair of white ponies. He took the "American" name of David Olson.

After Dave Olson and Maren Frovik were married they continued to live in the Baker vicinity between Leland and Earlville, their address being Earlville. "We didn't have money enough to go farming", Maren told her children in later years, "and we had to live. I had saved \$90 and father \$80 so we bought a team of mares, mine the \$90 one. Uncle Osmund let father [Dave] use his spring wagon (until he could make enough to pay for it) to haul milk and cream -- that is, he drove through the country and hauled it to town for the farmers. We didn't have anything very nice in the house excepting what friends had given us but we were very happy. In fact we had furniture made from dry goods boxes that father made into tables and chairs. We had one nice rocker that Uncle Osmund and Aunt Julia gave us."

The "Uncle Osmund" and "Aunt Julia" were Maren's father's cousins as mentioned before. Osmund was a son of Osmund Meling and came with the first Ikdal emigrants in 1837. (See Chapter III) Dave and Maren were very fond of Osmund and Julia who were as good to Maren as if she had been their own daughter. The Olson children also learned to love them and to call them "Aunt" and "Uncle".

Dave and Maren lived on a farm near Earlville (where the second, third, fourth, and fifth children were born) until February of 1900 when they moved to the Chris Hayer farm three and one half miles north of Eagle Grove, Wright County, Iowa. (Mrs. Hayer was a daughter of Osmund and Julia). While on this farm Dave bought the 160 acre farm across the road and improved it with a ten-room house, barn, cribs, and other buildings. The family moved there in 1909 and their oldest son took over the Hayer place.

"Dad visited in Norway the summer of 1912", writes one of Dave's daughters. "He left in May and came back in September. He and Uncle Andrew (his oldest brother in America) had planned for several years to go for a visit to their parents but either illness or some unexpected incident turned up to prevent it. Then one day a letter came from their father saying that their mother had passed away in her sleep. Father grieved so over this and that he had put off the trip too long, so said, 'I will go next year', and they did. It was a very happy time for him to again meet his father, brother, and two sisters and their offspring. One thing dad and Uncle did was to fix up Grandma Eggesdal's grave the way they have them in Norway, and Grandpa never got over thanking them for it. He carried on a correspondence with mother [Maren] after dad's death. Dad also called on mother's folks in Norway."

Dave Olson brought the two oldest children of Sina, Maren's sister, back to America with him in 1912¹. He said that he had helped so many of his own people to come to America that he wanted his wife's folks to have the same chance. He had also helped Karen's children to come² and was usually helping someone out. The Olsons frequently sent money back to Norway for Sina and Guttorm. There was usually some relative living in the Olson home and they had many friends and appreciative neighbors. Dave and Maren were also very devoted to each other.

After Dave's death from Hodgkins Disease in 1915 (aged 55), Maren continued on the farm until the death of her son George's wife. She then kept house for him but when he remarried she bought a house in Eagle Grove and lived there. She aged rapidly after Dave's death because of business worries to which she had not been accustomed. She said she was like a little child with a purseful of money who didn't know what to do with it. She was very much interested in the welfare of her family. She died at the age of 64 from diptheria -- although this was not known until afterward. Burial services were held in the open because of quarantine. Interment was made in Rosehill Cemetery.

Vilum Guttormson Frovik, the third child in the family, married Olena Olesdatter Tveit and they lived on her farm, Indre Tveit, which was not far north of Frovik. Olena was quiet and a good woman but did not like too much noise. She had an abhorrence of rats and diaper wash-

¹These two later returned to Norway, although one came back again.

²The fourth (came 1902), fifth, sixth, ninth, and tenth came to Amer.

ing, which process made her throw up. So Vilum had to wash the diapers. "No more kids", said he; and so they only had two and the youngest of these died.

Olena died (probably in her late 50s) and Vilum married a former nurse, Martha Pedersdatter Liarabben. The nurse and Doctor in Skjold were paid by the sogn and went places on call. Martha was a nice woman and more lively than Olena.

Vilum had a second farm called Hokel but it is not clear just when this was acquired. It is said that he gave up Tveit after Olena's death; and he is remembered as Vilum Hokel. He was always ambitious and a hustler, keeping several irons in the fire, and by watching his pennies became "well-to-do" as that was understood in Norway. He turned over new prairie and brought more land under cultivation. Hokel was located just north of Skjold Church and was large enough to support 8 cows, a horse, and 40 or 50 sheep. Vilum liked animals and "farming was always in his head". He would buy run-down cattle as a speculation and fatten them up. He would frequently butcher and take the meat to town for sale but also often sold to salesmen on the hoof. Notwithstanding all this he found spare time to half sole and repair shoes and the neighbors brought him their trade. He used pig hair for a needle, twisting it around the thread. When Ole, his son, took over Hokel, Vilum reserved a small area and built a house on it. He continued to keep about 15 sheep.

Sina Olena Guttormsdatter Frovik, Vilum's younger sister, was a cook and housekeeper in Kristiansand before her marriage. She married John Larson "Sagen" (Soya ?) Ostrom¹ and they lived on western Tveit, Skjold. This gaard was near Aursland and was also the birthplace of Erik Nelson Tveit as already mentioned in Chapter II. Sina and John had nine children, of which they raised all but the youngest.

Sina Tveit was a very hard-working woman and was busy from early morning until late at night doing things for her family. She often sat up until two or three A.M. making underwear and stockings. She knitted, carded wool, and did a lot of spinning, but not much weaving as that was sent out to women who specialized in it. Sina was noted for her ability to mix dyes. She would buy dyes and mix them in dyepots which she kept a long distance from the house because of the smell. The women also had to do the chores in addition to the housekeeping and cooking. There were 3 to 4 cows, a horse, 20 to 30 sheep and a few goats on Tveit. Sina always kept at least one goat for milk. The cows were kept in the barn all winter and warm water and everything else carried to them. (After six or seven months in captivity even sedate old cows were frisky when let out in the spring.) The only "spare" time available to the Norwegian farmer's wife was on a Sunday afternoon, after the noon meal, when Sina would read the Bible and a religious book. Like Karen and Maren, Sina was generous, and was always willing to help anyone with their work.

The present-day female Ikdal descendants who read this are no doubt asking with a shade of irony: "Well what was left for the dear man to do?" To attempt an answer would be dangerous, but assuredly the men were not shirkers, and if those Norwegian women are now considered as victims of an unhappy custom, they probably did not consider it in that light. The Norwegian farm women were (and are) probably just as happy, or happier, than their modernized (?) American counterparts.

John Larson Tveit had a trade -- that of furniture maker, so he was very handy at making chairs, cabinets, etc., as well as other carpenter work. He bought Tveit for 1200 kroner. It was a very hilly, poor farm, although today it has been much improved. It raised oats, potatoes, and "rugo" barley? . John worked out whenever he could as

¹I cannot explain "Soya" or the quotation marks around "Sagen". "Sagen" was a plass under Nedre Ostrom and perhaps the quotation marks imply that his name really should have been "Ostrom". John spoke of sailing boats as a child on a small river near or on Ostrom, which was located near Frovik.

²As we have seen there were two Tveits in Skjold. Was Indre Tveit the same as Ostreveit?

he had eight children to support. With other farmers he worked on the roads for the road commissioner.

John was a very good singer and was much in demand as a song leader and at funerals. His voice was strong and Sina and the girls could hear him of an evening when they came out of the barn even though far away or from the house when doors were closed. He preferred religious songs and after dinner on Sunday he would read out of a daily religious guide book and then get the children together for singing before allowing them to go out and play. He was sort of a community song leader and one time when he missed a few meetings because of a bad foot they had to ask the women if they knew the tunes. But they were stuck without John. He was in the greatest demand for funerals. It was the custom to have two men ride between the coffin wagon and the rest of the procession, to sing. They would sing sad and religious songs as they passed each farm on the way to Skjold Church where the minister awaited them. People from many miles away called on John to sing on these occasions.

Every one of John and Sina's eight children came to America but four of them went back to Norway. Oliver returned because he got homesick for his folks, Johannes because he could not get his wife to come across, and Lars because his girl friend would not leave her parents. Thus here was a family split 50-50 by the lure of the New World in the West. In 1940, after the German occupation, Sina and Ingebjør (Lars' wife) wrote to America that all was well but they could [might as well] polish the pot and put it on the dresser for an ornament.

CHAPTER X

In which we complete the story of the Erlands by giving an account of the Sevig-Olsons

Anna Serena Vilumsdatter Erland, youngest daughter of Seri Gutormsdatter Erland and Vilum Vilumson Erland II, married the farmer and schoolteacher, Gunder Olson Egge. Anna Serena was a tailor and dressmaker, learning these trades at home.

Gunder Olson Egge was one of seven children born to Ole Baarson Egge¹ and Bertha Hendreksdatter Erland. The gaard Egge was in Skjold and has already been mentioned in Chapter VIII in connection with Malene Baarsdatter Egge, Gunder's cousin, and Lars Vilumson Egge. Gunder and Anna Serena were married paa Erland, the farm of the bride's father, and set up housekeeping on Munkhus, another farm in Skjold. They rented this farm for three years and when the owner required the use of it, they moved on Valland.

After three years on Valland, Gunder and Anna Serena bought the gaard Søvik and moved there in the spring of 1849. Søvig then became the "home farm" in Norway. It was located near the southernmost bay of the Grindefjord on the main road running from Haugesund to Skjoldastraumen. It was about equidistant by road between the ancestral farms of Aursland and Erland, and was neighbor to Oddnes and Okkland. In

¹Ole was in the war of 1813 (see first part of Chapter VIII). He tired of camp life -- some men were cursing, some crying, some praying. He became ill and called the Doctor. The latter told Ole to go home just as he was army uniform and all. He felt better then, especially when home in his own bed. His gun scared Bertha. Before long the war was over and he sent his clothes back.

size, Sövik fed 5 cows, 30 sheep, and a horse, and this may have been equivalent to around 30 acres as we are told that Gunder never farmed more than about that amount.

As we have said, Gunder Olson Sövik was a school teacher. He was smart and a good writer. There were no schoolhouses so the teacher threw his books over his shoulder and went from house to house. The length of the schooling given each family depended on the size of the farm. Five cows, 30 sheep, and a horse were worth $1\frac{1}{2}$ days schooling so the Sövik children got ten or eleven days schooling each year -- officially. Actually they got much more than that because when Gunder could not work outside at farming because of the weather, he would work inside at making shoes and he would gather the children around the table at the same time and instruct them in school work. Thus the "teacher's kids" really had an advantage. In addition, of course, the Sövik and other children had to read for the priest when they reached the age of 14. In 1863 Gunder sold Sövik and in 1866 the entire family -- parents and seven children -- came to America to take advantage of the better opportunities afforded. They sailed Apr. 6, 1866 from Stavanger on the boat "Herkelus" and had an uneventful crossing which lasted five weeks and two days. On the boat each family had its own bunks, which were arranged on two sides of one large room. Apparently the accommodations were about the same as we described in detail in Chapter VI when the Kallecods came to America (1868). The Söviks also landed in Quebec, and then went by box car to La Salle County, Illinois. This was because their Uncle Osmund Meling and his family, and their Aunt Eli Aursland and her family, had already located there.

Upon their arrival the Söviks stayed for a few days with Osmund's. They then bought ten acres of land from Thomas Thomason, Osmund's son, and moved a house that they had purchased on to it. They used the name of Olson instead of Sövik. Anna Serena died in 1887 and was buried near Leland, probably in the Baker cemetery. She was short and fair, a well-liked, peaceable woman with not much to say. After her death Gunder sold the little farm and went to Humboldt, Iowa, where he lived with his son Henry. When his son George went to Humboldt in 1893, Gunder went to live with him. He is buried in Corinth Cemetery, Humboldt County, Iowa. Gunder was short in stature and dark of complexion.

The oldest child of Anna Serena and Gunder Olson Sövik was born Ole Gunderson Munkhus and known in America as Ole Sevig, living to the gracious age of 96, being as he was the oldest son of a school teacher, and having the gift of an unusual memory, Ole Gunderson Sevig was the most important single source for the material comprising the Ikdal genealogy. In his lifetime he had known seven generations of Ikdals. Not only did he know the Hundsneses, Melings, and Aurslands, but the Sandviks, Lindangers, and Veldes as well.

When he was six or seven Ole worked for his mother's first cousin, once removed, Segve Larson Sandvik. (See Chapter I.) Segve gave him a tree one time and he trimmed it up, hollowed out part of the trunk, and shaped it into a boat. It was small -- just big enough for a baby -- but complete with sails, rudder, and even a flag. By setting the rudder and sails properly Ole could sail it across a small lake or inlet to the opposite side, from which a pal¹ could return it to him. At the time of Gamle Martha's funeral Ole had the boat overhead in the woodshed and Jakob Ikdal saw it and bought it for \$5.00. The money of exchange in those days (1850's) was the ort, later called "old money". The ort was worth about 24¢ and there were 5 ort (or 120 cents) to the dollar.

As a boy Ole was hired by the Skjold priest to take him to Tysvaer whenever he had to minister to that parish. They drove in a carjol, a two wheeled cart with one horse. Ole stood up behind with a line on each side of the priest. He also had to open all the gates.

When Ole arrived in Illinois he hired out on farms. One farmer, who had quite a number of children, was particularly interested in the way Ole could write. He told Ole that he could write better than his son who had gone to American schools until he was 21 years old. People

¹This pal was probably Syvert Sigveson Sandvik as Ole used to have rowing races with him. (Ole was usually the winner.)

didn't think the Norwegians received any schooling. The children were also gathered around to watch him write and Ole signed his name "Ole G. Sevig" and asked one of the girls to pronounce it.¹ She did so and Ole thought then that he would rather have it than Olson, which was the way he had signed his first citizenship papers. Later when he went to Benton County, Iowa, there were so many Olsons that some received and opened his mail, so Ole spent \$10 to get his name changed to Sevig. He signed his second papers "Sevig" and had "Olson" changed to "Sevig" on the first. Later, Gunder, his father, admitted that that was what they all should have done -- kept the name of the home place in Norway.

Ole was at the "marryin age" when he came to America and so kept on the lookout for a good wife. He soon noticed however that all the old-country girls were taken. The Americans picked them up fast because they could offer them land and farms. However in the spring of 1870 Ole's cousin, Bertha Hendriksdatter came to America and four years later she and Ole were married at Leland, Illinois.

Bertha was the daughter of Hendrik Olson Egge and his wife, Inger. She had an older sister, Dorothy, who died as a young girl. Hendrik died when Bertha was only three months old and Inger remarried and lived in Haugesund. By her second marriage she had two sons, Henry and Krist, who came to America and died in Minnesota in 1926, a week apart. Bertha came to America alone although there was an acquaintance on the same boat by the name of Maltis Michaelson. They sailed from Haugesund and had a peaceful crossing to Quebec. Inger came to America and died in Bertha's home in 1894.

After their marriage in January, 1874, Ole and Bertha lived in Illinois until summer and then went to Iowa to take advantage of the cheaper land. They drove a team and wagon and Ole's brother, Henry Olson, went with them. They arrived at Sigva Erlands north of Newhall, Benton County, Iowa, July 12th. Ole and Henry worked in the harvest fields while Bertha worked for Mrs. Erland. In the fall they went to live with their second cousins, Andrew and Ellen Tow, and were there a year, during which their oldest child was born. The following winter they lived with Ole Tows. They had intended to go to Story County to buy land but the Erlands and Tows told them they were far enough west already. Heeding this advice they purchased 80 acres of land in Section 25, Florence township, Benton County, and settled on it in the spring (1876).

Ole Gunderson Sevig was a Quaker like his Erland cousins in America. He had been brought up a Lutheran but found that the Lutherans north of Norway, Iowa, (his Benton County vicinity) were quite a bit different and he did not feel at home with them. A man from Stavanger gave him some books printed in Norwegian about Quakers. Ole could read these better than the English religious books, and he learned that the Friends were really friends in deed as well as name. There had been only one Quaker in Skjold parish and he was the best man there, according to Ole. Ole explained that the reasons Quakers did not have ministers were (1) that the scripture says that ministers are not to receive pay as the gospel is free to all and (2) that Christ told His disciples to spread the gospel to everyone.

Ole Sevig was small in stature but active and healthy until two weeks before his death. Although he was up in his 90s he still retained his own teeth and could read without glasses. He had a quiet vein of humor that always popped up at unexpected times and brought twinkles into his eyes. He was a very successful farmer and came to own 560 acres of well-improved, rich Iowa land in Benton County and near Holmes, Wright County. He died of pneumonia on his farm near Walford one month and two days after his 96th birthday.² Burial was in Norway cemetery.

Bertha lived only four years longer than Ole. She died in the same home at the gracious age of 93. She was the mother of eight children.

¹This is a good transliteration for "Sövik". The letters "g" and "k" are nearly the same in pronunciation. In 1723 "Sövik" was spelled "Seewig".

²Ole's grandson, Dale Clyde Sevig, was born 100 years after his grandfather.

The second child in the Sevig (Olson) family was William, born Vilum Gunderson Munkhus. He sailed for a couple years when young and came to America with the rest of the Söviks when he was almost 21. In Illinois he lived less than two miles away from a girl by the name of Boletta Erikson, who was to become his wife. She was one of five(?) children born to Ansten and Cecilia (Sesela) Erikson who emigrated from Bokn¹, Norway in 1858, when Boletta was only eight years old, and settled in the Baker, Freedom Township, vicinity.

William and Boletta both worked for a man named William (?) Munson who lived near the mill where the Shabbona Massacre took place. Land belonging to the Munsons still includes Shabbona Park. In this massacre the men were at the saw mill and were killed first. The Indians then went after the rest and Mrs. Munson's mother was shot in bed. Munson's daughter was taken prisoner to Lee County but later exchanged. Munson himself escaped and remarried but lost his second wife also and William Olson and Boletta lived on his farm the first year they were married.

About March first of the next year William and Boletta moved -- she wrapped warmly in a sled with their two weeks old baby -- to their first home farm. This was 160 acres and the address was Baker, Illinois.

Five years later, in the spring of 1880 they moved to Iowa to take advantage of the new cheap land. After renting a year near Ellsworth, Hamilton County, where the third child was born, they moved in the spring of 1881 to Section 9, Newark Township, Webster County, where they purchased 160 acres at \$12½ per acre. Boletta died on this farm in 1913 and was buried in Newark Cemetery.

In 1914 William Olson and his brother Barney made a trip to Norway to visit the scenes of their childhood and youth and to visit their relatives. What a memorable trip it was! After 48 years -- nearly one half a century -- to go back to the mother land that had given them birth. Think of it! Forty-eight years away from the old home and now they were going back! Imagine the expectations and thrills they must have experienced in rounding the old curves in the roads, in knocking on doors untouched by their hands in decades, and in seeing the expressions of wondering credulity on faces which had never expected to see them again. Think of those long chats filled with reminiscences of 50 years before, of news about America, and of old friends seen and heard from! William and Barney Olson fulfilled the daily dream of thousands of Norwegian immigrants in America who saw their hopes of a visit to Norway fade with each advancing year until Time, the Master, stilled their aged limbs forever!

William and Barney sailed from New York May 5, 1914 and docked at Bergen May 14 and at Stavanger May 15. It was nine days to cross the ocean as compared with their trip in 1866 of five weeks and two days. From Stavanger they took the lake boat, "Jelmolan", to Skjoldastrauen. Among the people they visited while in Norway were nine of their first cousins, as follows: Engebret Engebretson (Erland), Vilum Vilumson Erland IV, Lars Vilumson Vaggeli, Severt Vilumson (Kreppene) (Ure) Erland, Maren Larsdatter Egge, Karen Larsdatter (Egge) Hoil, Karen Serena Guttormsdatter (Frovik) Vaagen, Vilum Guttormson (Frovik) (Tveit) Hokel, and Sina Olina Guttormsdatter (Frovik) Tveit.

After his return from Norway William Olson continued to live on his farm until 1918 when he went to live with his daughter Amanda at Vincent. In 1932 he moved with them to Fort Dodge. William enjoyed reading Norwegian newspapers and in December of 1941, when "Skandinaven" was taken over by "Decorah Posten", he had been a subscriber for 64 years; and had subscribed to "Visergutten" for 30 years. He died in Fort Dodge late in 1942 at the age of 97.

The third child in the Sövig family was born Baar Gunderson Valand and known in America as Barney Olson. He worked as a hired man in this country and went to Story County, Iowa, in 1879. Here he met and married Caroline Johnson, daughter of John Michaelson and Martha Reiers-

¹An island off the west coast bears this name. Tradition says that the Bokn from which the Eriksons came had two parts.

datter Dollva¹. She was born at Primrose, Wisconsin, and later lived with her folks near Badger, Webster County, Iowa.

When Barney and Caroline married they lived on William's rented place in Hamilton County for a year and then for another year on his new place. While here Barney rented 80 acres across the road to the west and farmed that as well as helping William. He then bought 160 acres on Section 34 in Corinth Township, Humboldt County. He later bought another farm north of this home place, put new buildings on it about 1913, and moved there. About the same period he sold this place to his nephew, Sam Sampson, and in 1914 he and Caroline moved to Humboldt. Here they built a nice home where they lived until they died, Barney at the age of 91. They are both buried in Corinth Cemetery, Corinth Township.

Bertha Serena Gundersdatter Valland(?), the fourth in the Sövig family, married Knute Molan, born Knute Oleson Maaland. He was the oldest of three children² born to Ole Knutson Maaland of Aardal (or Øredal) and his wife Anna Torelsdatter³ Sangesand. They landed in New York the day Knute was three years old, July 12, 1846, having come from Stavanger on a sailing vessel which took ten weeks to cross the ocean. At this very early date they traveled by tug or canal boat and by lake boat to Wisconsin (Milwaukee). They settled at Muskego, Wisconsin, for two years and then went by ox team and a covered wagon to Mission Township, La Salle County, Illinois. The Maalands lived with Nels Thompson's two years and with Lars Brimsnes', one, and from there removed to Rutland Township and finally to Section 26, R.3, of Earl Township.

Knute inherited this farm from his parents and he and Bertha set up housekeeping there after their marriage. They used the name Knutson for awhile but Knute went to a sale one time and there were so many Knutsons there that he decided to use Molan. He and Bertha lived all their lives on their farm in Section 26, died there, and were buried in Baker Cemetery.

The fifth child of Gunder and Anna Serena Sövig was called Hendrik, but in this country, Henry Olson. He came to Iowa in 1874 as we mentioned earlier, but returned to Illinois the same fall. Coming to Iowa a second time, he worked for Andrew Tow for two years and then went to Hamilton County where his brother William was and practiced carpentry. The next move was to Webster County where he bought 80 acres of land. After a few years he sold this and purchased 160 acres just west of the town of Humboldt which he retained until shortly before his death. However he only farmed it himself for a few years and then purchased a house in town (Humboldt) and lived there. Henry died in the hospital at Ft. Dodge and was buried in Corinth Cemetery, seven miles west of Humboldt. He never married.

Sarah Ellen Gundersdatter Sövig, the younger daughter, married her second cousin on her mother's side, Erik Samson Stakkastad, known in America as Ira Sampson. Their story will therefore be told with that of the Sampsons in a subsequent chapter (XIV).

Gunder Gunderson Sövig or George Olson, the seventh and last of the Sövigs, came to Iowa in 1889 and started to farm 140 acres in Cor-

¹The way in which our forefathers dropped or kept their farm names and even changed their Patronymics in order to be more "American" or because some friend suggested it, is reminiscent of the story told by Norlie in his History of the Norwegian People, 319.

"Many of the Norwegian names end in 'son' -- 'Anderson', 'Johnson', etc. These are good names but the Alberta land officials found trouble in keeping track of the many 'sons'. So they recommended that the names in "son" be changed -- not to Smith and Jones, but to Norwegian place names -- Groven, Ekland, Ostrom, Kjøsness, Bjerke, Levang, etc. Near Camrose lived a Norwegian. Before going over to this man's farm, the census enumerator asked about him, his name, and the like. 'Well, his name had been Sørensen', said the informant, but he has followed the custom here of changing it.' 'And what is his name now?' 'His name now? It is Olson; was the reply.'

²There was a sister Engabor (Olson) and a brother John.

³Torjulsdatter?

inth, Township, Humboldt County. He returned to Illinois to get married, early in 1893, to Amelia Jacobson, daughter of Jacob Jacobson and Martha Mary Kaade, who were both born in Norway. Amelia was born near Earlville. George and Amelia set up housekeeping on George's farm in Humboldt County and there raised their family of five children. George died in 1912 and four years later Amelia and the family moved to Humboldt, where she died. Both she and George are buried in Corinth Cemetery, Corinth Township.

Chapter XI

Nels Erikson, Odelman on Aursland¹

Jeannette Mather Lord.

Elisdatterdatterdatter

As we noted in Chapter II, Eli Guttormsdatter Erland of the third generation married Erik Nelson Tveit and went to live on Aursland. They had nine children, the first two of which were probably deceased in infancy. The remaining seven in order of age were Nels, Inga, Guttorm, Maren, Erik, Eli Serena, and Anna Marthe.

As the oldest son and male heir, Nels was said to be "born to odelret" with the right to full ownership of all the land in the family bruk² on Aursland.

He was small of stature, never growing into the huge man that his brother Guttorm did. After confirmation, instead of going into the forests with his father, Nels became a fisherman, going to Lofoten in February, and to Iceland in the autumn, or wherever and whenever the great schools of fish were to be found.

Probably through him came the description of the steep narrow Troldfjord in the Lofoten Islands, a fjord twisting between precipitous cliffs towering up into mountains, a fjord so narrow that the mountain walls seemed to close ahead of the boat but as one reached a headland, the fjord turned and continued again until the channel led out to sea. There is an old myth that the paths made by the trolds in olden times became the fjords and valleys of Norway today.

Through Nels Anna Martha picked up certain bits of lore about the sea which were handed on to us. Nels loved the smell of the seaweed. From Nels, she learned to pour water on the oarlocks when she wished the boat to slip through the fjord quietly and unnoticed. We were told of the groaning of the sea before a storm and that gulls flying low were a sure sign of storm.

Nels' fishing expeditions were the first steps toward success, for he in time established himself in the wholesale business of buying catches, packing, storing, and exporting fish with "a warehouse with derricks at the harbor docks" and with "an interest in several vessels". All this was accomplished by Nels with only the limited education given by the ambulatory schools³ and during his preparation for confirmation. Though Norway was rightly proud of her universal school system of this time, Nels could read but could not write. Yet according to Guner Inga-son, if one gave him a problem "he could figure it out in his head as well as any mathematician could do it on paper". Of Nels, his cousins have made these comments: "He was good at storing and packing fish". "He was quite successful and traveled a great deal."

On the death of his father,⁴ Aursland was sold to a man from Rom-saland. This indicates that Nels, though over forty years of age, was not at this time in a position to claim his odelret.⁵ As no son in

¹Chapters XI, XII, XV, XVI (except for the sketches of the children of Serena Nelson Hanson), and XVII (except for the sketches of Sarah Anna and Mary Knudson) are copyrighted by Jeannette Mather Lord. These chapters are an abridged account of certain members of the family taken from a history of the family from Aursland now in preparation. J. Hart Rosdail kindly made his records available to me.

²Farm. There might be several bruk on one gaard.

³See account of these schools given by J. Hart Rosdail in Chapter X.

⁴Sometime between 1849 and 1852, says J. Hart Rosdail.

⁵Odelret was the right of ownership in the land but the heir was required to pay an appraised value, always reasonably low. The price received by the estate would go in part to Eli and part would be divided between the sons and daughters, with the daughters receiving only

Norway ever gave up his odelret lightly, we conclude that the business during these years was not yet prosperous enough for him to pay the appraised value of the land. Later when Romsland failed to keep his part of the contract by failing to send Eli in America her folga, or pension, Nels regained the farm which he in turn passed on to his son, Torkild. Later the farm passed from Torkild to Johannes from Bjøland, whose descendants own it today.

Eventually Nels purchased a home in Haugesund and as he was the only one of the family to own property there, we know by elimination that it must have been his stone house which some guest at Evergreens¹ described "on the outskirts of the city, still there and still in the family, though now surrounded by the city. It had a nice barn and a spring. The milkmaids kept the stones about the spring whitewashed and scrubbed and shining."

Nels married twice. His first wife was called Madame Marie. She was the mother of his children, Rangval, Torkild, Gaude, and Erik. His second wife is spoken of as "tony" and she was related to the Anderson family in Haugesund with whom Serena Ingasdatter lived as a young girl. After Nels' death, she traveled "all over Europe" with Serena as a companion. In 1884, she, with a sister, was keeping a hotel in Stavanger.

Nels' death came sometime before 1871 in Göteborg where he had gone to sell fish. He, a country boy, had started at the bottom of the ladder. During the difficult times of the depression following the Napoleonic Wars, by building up a prosperous business as an exporter of fish, he became one of the rich and respected city merchants. Besides he redeemed his odelret to Aursland and in turn handed it down to his son, Torkild. Thus he guarded the honor of the family as required by the standards of the bondestand, which expected that each farm should be kept in the family, descending preferably from son to son through the generations.

Of Nels' children, we know of four sons, Rangval, Torkild, Gaude, and Erik. Rangval, the oldest, must have died in infancy for Torkild was the oldest to grow to maturity and he had the odelret to Aursland. Gaude was older than Ellen Anna Marthasdatter, who was born in 1853. Erik may have been born about 1854, for he was the same size as Edward Anna Marthason.

All we know of Torkild is told in a letter from his brother Gaude, which is given later. Through Stadsraad Meling from Haugesund, I learned in 1933 that there was still living at that time in Haugesund "a certain Mrs. Gustava Øritzland, the widow of the late Mr. Torger Øritzland, and this lady might be some help to you. Her daughter has married Mr. Olai Hauge, Haugesund." Could this Torger Øritzland be the Torkild of whom Gaude writes?

Gaude spent a year, 1869-70, in America, living with the Sampsons on High Prairie. He was a little man who became the "Captain on a big ship", and was very well educated, speaking several languages. On a trip from England to Norway when ill with typhoid fever, he jumped overboard one night in delirium and because of the darkness he wasn't rescued.

When Erik was "so tiny that he easily lost his balance while standing in the big door of his father's warehouse at the docks in Haugesund harbor where the boats came up to load, he fell into the water and was drowned.... The little coat he was drowned in was sent to Anna Martha for her son of the same name, Erik. It was dark blue with narrow blue and brown stripes."

On Nov. 10, 1884, Gaude Nelson Øritzland wrote to Ellen Anna Marthasdatter:² "I have just come home from a voyage to the Baltic where I have been for the last three months. You remember I was a seaman

half the share of the sons. Not until after 1860 did each child inherit equally. E.J. Goodman, Best Tours of Norway, 338 (1892).

¹Iowa home of the author.

²Letter is signed G. Critzland. Spelling and punctuation have not been changed.

when I was in America and I have been so after I came home....

"Now I will tell you a little of your relations in the old country.... I am a sailor and get my bread from work on the waves am now in bad health but in good humor am married to a good wife and have only one daughter....

"My brother Torkild has our father's farm and four children alive two of his boys are sailors the oldest one have been on Iceland this fall and lost the ship in a hurrican there was twenty vessels from this place lost and 4 men drowned the other boy Rangval is come home from Sicily he will now begin navigation school he is a very nice lad, his other children are yet small.

"You know we have a stepmother. Well she is living in Stavanger in company whit a sister keeps a hotel.... Our cousin Tollak Gunder Stakkestad is not come home yet but he is expected very soon his wife is very sick... he has been talking of going to Amerika but if it will be to journey in the spring I can't tell.

"...time are very hard here this year we have no hering on the whole coast and that is our chief support... We have had a good summer but a stormy fall.... many lives are lost in October and this month and many ships will never come to their home again...."

Chapter XII

Poverty on Stakkestad. Iowa Beckons

Jeannette Mather Lord,
Elisdatterdatterdatter

Of the life of Inga, oldest daughter of Eli Guttormsdatter Erland and Erik Nelson Aursland, we know little except of poverty and hardship. She was born in 1808, the second year of the Seven Years' War.¹ This was only one of a series of years of war, blockade, famine, and cold. In 1814, the year her brother Guttorm was born, the Treaty of Kiel handed Norway over to Sweden without asking as much as a "Vaer saa god".² Norway clamored for independence. In the February when Inga was six years old, after church services, the whole congregation of the parish of Skjold was called upon to take an oath of allegiance to maintain the independence of their country, even by going to war if necessary. Following this, the election of delegates to a constitutional convention was held. I have heard tell of the departure for Eidsvold of the delegates on horseback. Norway was in the throes of a spring thaw and the roads were almost impassable. At Eidsvold, a constitution, "the most democratic in the world,"³ was adopted. War with Sweden followed. Through a compromise, the fighting came to an end with the formation of a union between Norway and Sweden of two equal sovereign states. But the first enthusiasm of peace was killed by the long post-war depression, crop failures, and winters of extreme cold.

Not until 1830, the year Inga's sister Anna Martha was born, was there a revival in patriotism, faith in democracy, and agitation demanding reforms long overdue. In the midst of this political ferment, Ole Gunderson from Stakkestad came in the approved Norwegian custom with sponsors to ask for the hand of Inga; and about 1835, when Inga was twenty-seven years old, they were married.

In these years on Aursland they mixed grated raw potato with flour for their flat brød. It certainly "stretched the flour" and made more bread. When one was hungry enough, one easily learned to

¹Denmark and Norway were involved in the Napoleonic Wars from 1807 to 1814. In Norway this phase of the war is referred to as the Seven Years' War.

²"If you please"

³Halfdan Kolt, Voice of Norway, 66.

like it." Flour made from the bark of both the pine and the spruce trees, was widely used also, as in all famines in Norway from time out of mind. Only necessity made them undertake in the spring the sticky job of stripping the bark from the lower part of the big trees. It was the inner portion of the bark from the largest trees that made the least resinous and more palatable flour. These strips were hung on the sunny side of the barns to dry through the summer. Before grinding into flour, the bark was made more friable and porous by slowly heating it over a low fire. The bread was bitter but nourishing and was spoken of by Eli as "famine bread". Though I find no record of it in family tradition, bark of elm trees was used in famine years as well as buds of hazel bushes and buds of heather. One reads that one half, or two fold (two-thirds) bark meal was mixed with the rye. Family tradition speaks of others using buds and roots of couch grass and even straw, as if they on Aursland were never as hard pushed as that. The bread made of straw tasted dry and pricked the mouth like the chaff and dust from the threshing machine. I have heard said that no matter how well it was chewed and rolled in the mouth, it tore the throat when washed down with a swallow of water. Such bread gave no strength, only a feeling of having eaten. After such fare potato flat brød was smooth as honey.

"Inga married well. Ole is master of two farms," the elders repeated to each other at the wedding. The silver spoons, a silver watch chain, and a pair of brass candlesticks now owned by Inga's granddaughters, Ida Thorson and Tillie Chantland of Thor, Iowa, may well go back to her trousseau taken from Aursland in her painted chest. Her spinning wheel and carder, which they also have, might not have been acquired until after her marriage. Surely the eiderdown pillows and coverlets, which Inga brought to America, had been part of her dowry.

Stakkestad, Inga's new home, lies at the south end of Stakkestad Vatn at the foot of Helgafjellet. As a crow flies, Stakkestad may be about two miles from Aursland over Valhest, a mountain ridge stretching up behind Aursland. As there were no carriage roads at this time, the bride and groom must have made their wedding journey on horseback over the narrow bridle trails winding between Valhest and Helgafjell.

Though Inga's nephews and nieces all confirm the statement that Inga married well, her granddaughter, Ida Ingasondatter, writes, "I never knew that my grandfather owned anything.... He had a house and a barn, had one cow and lost that.... [Father] spoke a lot about his mother and I have seen him weep like a child over the fact that his mother was left in dire poverty. Grandfather had cancer of the eyes and became blind so grandmother had all the responsibility of the children and their very meager home. Father said he had been in actual want...he would herd sheep in the mountains and wish he were one of them. He used to get so hungry and they barely had enough to eat.... As soon as the children were old enough they went out to work. They would hire out for board, room and a few clothes.... Father went to sea as soon as he was big enough."

An eye specialist has told me that Ole's trouble was possibly glaucoma or cataract, for cancer would not have been long in existence without killing him. Probably the cancer came later to cause his death. With either glaucoma or cataract, he would have a period of gradual dimming of his sight before total darkness came. Ole was a lumberman working in his own forests. One can picture his discouragement and the steady breaking down of his spirit as he stumbled and groped at his work as his sight failed until he could distinguish only light from dark. Then finally unending darkness came. His nickname Ole Bassi, meaning Ole the Awkward,¹ may well have come from his groping awkwardness due to his blindness.

At the time of their marriage, Inga and Ole probably had good reason to expect a sure income from Ole's timber land for many a fortune in this part of Norway was made from the forests during these years after the wars. Yet Norway lost her best customer when England began to

¹Translated by Freda S. Harold, Baker Library, Dartmouth College, Hanover, N.H.

import lumber from Canada. Many big business firms dealing in lumber went into bankruptcy. Stakkestad, though a large gaard, was hilly and not fertile. "Ole had a terrible time." He lost his farms, gave up his house on the gaard tun, and became a husmann. He built himself a house with lumber from his own forests. The stairway to the loft was never put in. There was not even a ladder. He would stand on a chair to climb into the loft, but as he was not tall enough to get up, Inga would stand beside the chair so that he could stand on her shoulder and in that way get into the loft to sleep. I am still puzzling how Inga got upstairs to sleep with her husband. Perhaps she didn't.

In Norway, the husmenn are a group whose "only wealth is their labor". With Ole unable to work, times became so hard that Inga had rarely a skilling in the bottom of her chest. To pay the rent on her cottage, Inga, noted for her weaving, may have been forced by circumstances to take charge of the weaving loft on Stakkestad tun.

After some years at sea, Inga's son Guner came to Illinois. Regularly he sent money back to his mother and on the death of his father, he sent her and his sister Martha tickets for passage to America, arranging that they should travel with Andrew Tow¹ who was back in Norway on a visit in 1880. On the voyage both Inga and Martha were so seasick that they were transferred to an upper room and cared for by Ellen Hanson who later became Guner's second wife. The boat docked in Philadelphia in the extreme heat of early fall and they came on to Chicago by rail. There Guner met them. On their way to Badger, Iowa, where Inga and Martha were to make their home with Guner, now a widower for three years, they visited Maren Sampson on High Prairie, Serena Hanson on Indian Creek, Ellen Anna Marthasdatter in Springdale, Iowa, and Ellen Marensdatter in Benton County, Iowa.

After Guner's marriage in 1885, Inga went to Lake City, Iowa, to live with her daughter Serena Olson Anderson. Inga died in 1886. She, Serena and her husband, Tollag and his wife were all buried in the same lot. Ida Ingasondatter says Inga "was quick tempered...she knitted and read the Bible and died of old age."

Ida Thorson has a photograph of her grandmother Inga taken just after she went to Lake City, showing a strong face with a firm mouth and direct eyes. Inga is dressed in homespun of her own weaving. Over her head is tied a head shawl, or skaut, with a gay border. Her hands, gnarled and knotted, bear testimony to the hard work they had performed. This is a picture of a person uncowed by adversity, still vigorous and dominating.

Inga's children were Serena, Tollag, Guner, Martha, and Ingeborg. Serena, when only nine years old, was adopted by the oldest brother of Haakon Thomas Anderson,² who lived in Haugesund. It was while in this family that Serena Ingasdatter first knew Haakon Thomas, her future husband.

After her Uncle Nels' death, Serena Ingasdatter lived with his second wife for a time and traveled in Europe with her.

When her brother, Guner, sent her passage money, she came to America in 1871, bringing her lovely bedding, eiderdown beds, chests, etc. She went directly to her aunts in Fox River Valley. Later she worked in Chicago and while there she met again Haakon Thomas Anderson, whom we know as "H.T." He "went west" to Iowa and started a blacksmith shop in Fonda. Then he moved to Lake City. As soon as he found a house for them to live in, Serena came out from Chicago and they were married April 11, 1875.

Haakon Thomas Anderson was the son of Anders Anderson, who married a German Girl named Brandt. In Valders H.T. received a good education and military training. He played the cornet and read music. It was the "America fever" which brought him to America in 1872. Here he prospered. He was a great boaster and everything he did was just right. Always in a hurry, he had no patience with loitering. He took pride in a pair of speedy black horses called "The Niggers" but Serena would not

¹Of whom, see post.

²J. H. Rosdail records that one account states that his name was Haakon Turben Anderson.

ride with him, perhaps because he had had a leg broken in a runaway. Though he found it necessary to wear a brace to stiffen it, "he skipped around like a young boy" and was "always quick and agile for his age". When he became the owner of an automobile, he twitted Knute Sampson, Maren's son, about not being able to drive. "Just think, an old man like me can drive a Ford while a young man like you can't." This made them both laugh heartily.

"Auntie was a good cook. They had lots of flat brød and lutefisk; she made the best apple pies and they used to have a lot of rice pudding which she cooked three to four hours in milk and sugar, cinnamon and nutmeg with lots of butter added.... We used to ask blessing both before and after meals.... She was a good manager and they got along O.K. even when [H.T.] spent a little too well." She grew heavy as she grew older and her light brown hair was only slightly gray when she died at the age of seventy-six in 1912. Her obituary speaks of her as one of the early settlers in the community, with frugality and determination to win, as outstanding characteristics.

After her death, H. T. lived with his nephew Tom Anderson in Lake City. He died when ninety-four years old in 1928.

Serena's brother Tollag was the second in the Stakkestad family. Although he was the oldest son and therefore the heir, he inherited nothing, as his parents had lost their land and everything else. Hard-working, conscientious, and ambitious, he failed in his first examination for confirmation, yet in his second attempt, he passed it. He went with the fishing crews and finally went into business for himself as master of his own fishing boat--"a big boat," says Ida Gunersdatter Thorson. "...But during the depression he failed in business, going into bankruptcy with \$2000 in debts unpaid.... [Guner] sent him money to bring his wife Mary¹ and foster daughter Maria Frølling to America."

After spending the first months in America with his brother, Guner, Tollag settled in Lake City, Iowa, where for twenty-two years as a mechanic in the roundhouse he was the faithful employee of the Chicago & Northwestern Railroad, receiving at first only \$1.25 a day.

Living frugally, he saved every possible penny to send back to his creditors in Norway until all debts were paid. "I couldn't die with an easy conscience until it was all paid back," he said. With this accomplished, his savings accumulated in the bank until when he died he left a stated sum to a nephew and two nieces, and two grandnieces, Guner's children and grandchildren.

Mary, his wife, was a city girl, Maria H. Jephine, from Kristiansand. She and Tollag had no children but they adopted a niece of Maria, named Maria Frølling, who died of consumption two or three years after arriving in Iowa. Ida Gunersdatter Thorson tells us, "Aunt Mary was a charming woman as I remember her, dressed so well, had some education I got some lovely clothes after Auntie which I made up for Miriam and Ellen Ida's daughters. One, I especially liked, was plum colored, very fine work". Mary was never vigorous and often ill. After four long years of painful illness, she died April 14, 1899.

The name Tollag Stakkestad was too difficult for Americans to say. They called him "Two-Legged Stalk Saw" and finally "Two Leg". So he changed his name to Oleson, later changing the spelling to Olson.

"In place of swearing, he would say 'Oh Yee!'"

"He liked good food and all kinds of wine."

He was a faithful reader of the Bible. "One who knew him intimately tells us that no day passed without his spending hours in prayer; That he never spoke ill of any person." For some months before his death, realizing that his time on earth was short, "his most earnest wish was to spend the coming Easter with the Savior he loved and honored. This prayer was granted, since on April 2, 1919, God took him to dwell in that home not made with hands."

Guner, the third child of Inga and Ole Stakkestad, remembers only the hunger and cold of his childhood. In confirmation, he stood at the head of his class. Then he went to sea. He "saw many countries...and

¹Maria H. Jephine. J. H. Rosdail says, "The names 'Gjertsen' and 'Mary E. Mastin' were also associated with her."

sailed a great deal; circled the coast of Africa and had been to South America and to the United States several times....he had thrilling experiences as a sailor on the Norwegian merchant marine ships. He sailed, it seemed, the world over. He heard a wonderful band play in St. Petersburg and got a glimpse of the Czar.... When they sailed around the coast of Africa, the sailors would throw water melons to the natives and they would come running toward the boat and eat the rind and all. He used to tell of the queer Chinese women with their bound feet. He was also in Japan, Australia, the Philippines, India, also other islands whose names I don't remember.... He always referred to his boats as schooners. 'The schooner I was on,' he would say.... Then the storms he would get into; the waves were like mountains; the wind screamed; they were on the verge of shipwreck many a time. On one of the trips the sailors didn't get along with the captain; all hated him....he [Guner] skipped ship in England with another sailor and came to New York and came on out to Illinois to visit relatives." This was some time before 1870.

In Illinois, he stayed in turn with his Aunt Maren Sampson, Aunt Serena Hanson, and Aunt Anna Martha Knudson, as well as with Gamle Melting. After working a winter for his Uncle Sampson, he signed up on a steamer on the Great Lakes. There was good money in this and the money was always so necessary to Guner who sent every cent back to his mother in Norway. A year's experience told him that the most money could be earned by working on the farm in the summer and sailing in the winter. On the Great Lakes he suffered from exposure more than when rounding the Horn. The work was hard and he was often sick. He froze his feet when his boots were filled up to his knees with icy water which would freeze solid before he could empty his boots. His feet became permanently crippled.

In the late seventies Guner worked one season on Willow Farm with Edward Anna Marthason. Soon after this Nels Serenason came back from Iowa on a visit to his mother. Nels and Guner were always together as much as possible. Now plans were made for Guner to try his luck in Iowa. While the last things were being packed into the wagon along with the plows, seed grain, and food for the trip, Nels mother, Serena, full of concern and apprehension over what she considered a hazardous journey, attempted to be reassuring by saying, "Wherever you go, you will take the Lord with you." To this Guner, a bit exasperated, answered, "We are overloaded now. We can't take another thing."

After working two years in Iowa on the Glen Farm, owned by John R. Foster, south of Humbolt, Guner bought his first piece of land on Section 7, Newark Township, Webster County, from Nels Serenason for eight dollars an acre. Later he got another eighty, joining this to the south, also low and swampy and often covered with water. He soon built on a knoll in a field a house, 18 x 18 x 8 with a "lean" on it which served as a kitchen. Then he built stables for the horses and planted silver maples and willows around the house. That first winter, when he took in a family, twelve persons lived in his new house until the others were able to build.

Shortly after this Guner went back to High Prairie, Illinois, to get Bertha Samesdatter¹ Sørvaag, who was at this time working for his Aunt Maren. They were married in Benton County, Iowa. Bertha was ill most of the time after their marriage and died eleven months later in giving birth to a son who did not long survive her.

After his father's death Guner sent passage money to his mother and sister Martha. In the autumn of 1880, he took cattle to Chicago and met them there. Here for the first time he met Ellen Hanson Grønstad² who had cared for his mother and sister when they were ill on the voyage. Five years later, after being a widower for six years, on Apr. 1, 1885, Guner and Ellen were married at Fort Dodge, Iowa.

On Grønstad on Bukn, a little island off the east coast of Karmø near Haugesund, Ellen Hansdatter was born. Her daughter, Ida, writes, "My mother was left without a father when she was...not more than two

¹J. H. Rosdail says Samsdatter.

²Or Grønstad.

years old. Her mother...was given a little place by her uncle on her mother's side.... Mother came to this country because there was so little she could do in Bukn. She had heard of the good wages paid to maids in this country.... My grandmother Hanson's people were well off and her family were well taken care of.... Andrew Tow bought mother's ticket and she worked for S. K. Sampson a year to pay for her trip across."

Although Ellen lived over fifty years in America, she never learned to speak English properly. Norwegian was always spoken at home and the children were taught to read and write in their mother's tongue. Their parochial school used only Norwegian. When her daughter, Ida, went to public school she could not speak a word of English.

Of the early days in Iowa, Ida writes, "I've heard father tell that when they had those terrible blizzards, he'd tie a rope to the door knob of the house and carry it with him to the barn where he would tie it to the stable door in order that he might find his way back to the house. Of course there were drought years, and years when it was so wet that crops would be drowned. But the old pioneers weren't quick to throw up their hands in despair. Then the good years would come and up them on their feet again."

"Guner was a great favorite with all his cousins.... Very witty, he always kept every one laughing," writes Mary Tow, a cousin.

His children tell us: "He had a wonderful memory; he read English very well, having learned to read it by using a New Testament with Norwegian in one column and English in the column opposite.... He loved to read history.... I remember so well the papers father took--we had no dailies then--Skandinaven, Decorah Posten, Chicago Inter-Ocean, and the county paper, as well as the farm journal....he used in his conversation what he had read, giving dates as well. He spoke perfect English, better than many who were born in this country."

Guner died in 1905 at sixty years of age and Ellen died in 1933 when eighty-three years old. They had lived their lives on the home farm. Today the son and two daughters, Henry, Tillie, and Ida, live there with the granddaughter Miriam Cleveland, her husband and two sons. Ida is the only one of Inga's grandchildren to have descendants. Ida's grandchildren are the fifth generation to live on Guner's farm. The willows and the cottonwoods are still there.

Of Guner's younger sisters, Martha and Ingeborg, very little is known. In 1880, Martha came to America with her mother Inga. When both were so sick on the voyage over, Martha was even then full of fun and mischief. She would attempt to console her mother with comments such as "We will soon be in Canaan's Land." Even though ill, her mother did not fail to get the double meaning--Paradise or America, each was the promised land, flowing with milk and honey. After the arrival in Philadelphia when the immigration and customs officials came for inspection, Martha sat on her chest and made the party all laugh by bringing her fist down hard on her box with the remark in Norwegian, "You can't open my chest, you dunce. It's mine." Sissy Serenasdatter tells that "Martha was tall and slender and real nice looking with stylish clothes. Inga wore a scarf over her shoulders and Martha wore a hat." After the terrible voyage, Martha was never well again and she died two years later from abdominal cancer.

"Aunt Ingeborg is only a name to me," writes Ida Gunersdatter Thorson. "I have heard Aunt Serena speak of her as a very robust girl. They said that I was much like her....five feet tall...brown hair and blue eyes and big bones." J. Hart Rosdail records that she "worked for some rich people in Haugesund as a house keeper." She died when about seventeen of inflammation of the bowels.

CHAPTER XIII

The Saga of "Big Tom", The Family's Paul Bunyan

This is the story of "Big Tom", he of the giant stature and the prodigious strength, he of the ready tongue, he of the generous heart; -- Big Tom, long remembered of men.

His real name was Guttorm Erikson Aursland or "in English", Thomas Erickson. His birth (Jan.12,1813) on the gaard Aursland in Skjold, Norway, and his parentage were discussed in Chapter II. Further, since he and his Uncle Osmund Meling and family were the first of our Ikdal forefathers to come to America¹, the early happenings in the Big Tom saga have already been told in Chapters III and IV. In those chapters we outlined the reasons for the Norwegian immigration exodus of 1836-37 of which he was a part, and presented the more specific factors influencing his decision to come to America. We described the ship and its passengers, the long voyage, and the passenger manifest drawn upon the arrival in New York. We told why Tom and the Melings went to Illinois, what kind of land it was in those days, and described how Tom left the Melings at Rochester and walked to Illinois to work on the Illinois and Michigan Canal.

While still in New York Tom was walking around one day looking for Norwegians. He saw a heavy broadcloth skirt hanging on a clothesline. This spelled "Norway" to Tom so he stopped and got acquainted with the family whose name was Nelson. They became good friends.

As Tom walked westward he worked his way by hiring out at such jobs as chopping wood. When he arrived in Illinois he passed through Chicago, a city very much in its swaddling clothes, and secured work helping to build the Illinois and Michigan Canal. The digging of this canal had started only the year before and it continued until 1841 when the panic brought it to a temporary halt. It was completed in the years 1845 to 1848. Tom is said to have driven 25 yoke of oxen on the project.

Meanwhile Tom² became acquainted in the Fox River Settlement and knew the early settlers' trials of fever, hostile Indians, and cholera. One of his friends, Mrs. George Shaver, had been kidnapped by the Indians and made to watch while they danced with the scalps of her parents on poles³. Shabbona, Chief of the Pottawattomies, was the hero of the day because his warnings to settlers (especially in 1836) enabled them to escape from the attacks of Indians under Blackhawk⁴. One woman refused to leave her home at one time but her husband was nice to the Indians and they were spared.

Tom Erickson also worked for Armour and Company in Chicago during these early years. This may well have been during the period 1842-1844 when the construction work on the canal was halted. Armour and Company was then known as H.O. Armour and Company and had just been established in 1837, as a grain commission business. It did not add a large pork packing plant until 1868.⁵

Also during these early years -- Tom teamed goods from Chicago to Ottawa, Illinois, a distance of about 80 miles. An historical account of this route and period⁶ gives the following:

"Familiar to early prairie commerce was the teamster with his Con-

¹Earlville Leader, 1,6 (Earlville, La Salle County, Illinois, September 2, 1926). Also family tradition -- Ole G. Sevig, Knute Sampson, Nels O. Nelson, Matilda Egeland, Caroline Rosdail.

²Tom is mentioned as an early settler by H.R. Holand, De Norske settlementers historie, 87 (Ephraim, Wisconsin, 1909)

³According to Jeannette Mather Lord, Mrs. George Shaver was formerly Phidelia Munson, daughter of William Munson and Rachel Hall, who was one of the girls kidnapped by the Indians. See also the reference to the Munsons and the Shabbona Massacre in Chapter X.

⁴Research by J.M.L.

⁵Research by J.M.L.

⁶Service Bulletin, Public Service Co. of Northern Illinois, Volume 15, No.3 March and April 1946.

estoga wagon, forerunner of the modern freight car, who hauled produce before the days of the canal or the railroads. His patronage was jealously courted by the wayside inns. Old Pre-emption House at Naperville, junction of two important stage lines, was a favorite stopping place. . according to travelers of that day as many as fifty of the prairie schooners would anchor there at one time and the night would be bright with bonfires and laughter. Passenger fares were high on canal boats and the rules of conduct (framed in pink satin) strict. No gentleman was permitted to lie down in his berth with his boots on -- nor should he whittle the furniture. Boat whistles screeched wildly that spring day in 1848 when boats loaded with jubilant people, started simultaneously from Chicago to La Salle, met at Lockport to open the Illinois and Michigan Canal. Although this once important waterway joining Lake Michigan and the Illinois River is no longer in use, and now resembles nothing more than a drainage ditch, its locks can still be seen at Lockport."

Roads were very poor and it was not uncommon to get stuck with a load of goods or salt. In such events Tom would lift the heavy barrels of salt off the load by himself and reload them. When night overtook him he would have to hunt for a place to stay and this was often difficult. One night in particular, people along the way kept sending him on to the next place until it grew quite late. The houses were far apart and so finally he insisted on staying at one place and the people treated him fine in spite of his being the unwelcomed guest. He was always well-liked and made friends easily. By 1849 he made a habit of stopping with a Mrs. Ball at Pavillon, Illinois.¹

Big Tom Erickson also drove the stage coach between Chicago and Ottawa and the following historical account² becomes pertinent:

"The stage coach driver was a romantic figure with his whip and trumpet and all the fanfare. He always arrived with a flourish although his weary passengers may have spent most of the trip throwing themselves halfway out of the coach in response to his "Gentlemen, to the right" and "now, to the left" to keep the carriage from over-turning. Incidentally, the custom of naming Pullman cars is a survival of those days when the stagecoach bore the name of some noted person.

"Illinois' pioneer roads were so often sloughs that plank roads came into vogue. The first of these, now Chicago's Ogden Avenue, was a toll-road known as Southwestern Plank Road. It went bankrupt because ingenious citizens sidestepped paying toll on fine days by driving out across the prairie and around the toll-house ... which is today the rear wing of the frame house diagonally opposite Fullersburg Inn at Hinsdale."

The Illinois and Michigan Canal was probably the most important undertaking of the early settlers of Chicago and the adjacent Fox and Illinois River areas. Patterned after the famous Erie Canal in the state of New York, the connection between the Illinois River and Lake Michigan at Chicago was expected to provide a way to market the products of the new settlers in the western areas and to transport the supplies that they needed in exchange.

We have already mentioned that Tom Erickson drove oxen in helping to build the canal. According to tradition he also helped to build the first boat and became the first canal boat captain. He probably had received first hand experience with the Quaker boat builder, Lars Larson, at Rochester.

There were very few Norwegians working on the canal during the years of its construction and the early years of its operation. They were practically all Irish. This might have put Tom into relative obscurity were it not for his great size and strength and his inclination to argue.

"That man was a ..., a... -- he was a positive giant", asserted a retired business man in Minneapolis.

"His wrist was as big as a man's forearm", said a farmer in Iowa.

"How come we don't have any Big Toms any more? Too many cigarettes I guess", wrote a grizzled old timer from his wilderness cabin in Western Montana.

¹Statement from J.M.L. ²Service Bulletin, loc.cit.

But one of the Irish probably summed it up the most simply with the ejaculation: "A powerful man!"

Perhaps the "Irisher" was one of the witnesses at the time the "Big Norwegian", as they called him, earned the additional sobriquet of "Peacemaker". Those were rough days in the time of the Illinois and Michigan Canal -- not greatly dissimilar in many respects from the days of the western boom towns depicted in the movies. With the Irish, of course, came whisky and saloons and Tom quite naturally patronized the latter along with his fellows.¹ Fights were frequent. In one of these two Irishers were battling it out and things commenced to look serious. The bystanders either did not care to risk breaking it up or else were unsuccessful, but the "Big Norwegian" stepped in, got a good grip on the back of each neck, lifted both men free from the ground, struggles notwithstanding, and knocked their heads together until both lapsed into a peaceful state of unconsciousness. After this episode Tom was called "The Peacemaker".

There was another time when "Peace" did not come quite so easy for the Big Norwegian. This was the occasion of his famous "fight with the Irish" which has been told the length and breadth of the land wherever the old timers of that locality and their descendants happened to settle. The number of Irish which Big Tom licked on this occasion has never been definitely settled, but ranges somewhere between a minimum of 11 and a maximum of 40.

The scene of the battle was laid in the town of Ottawa, where one may still see the channel of the old canal as he crosses the railroad tracks north of the business district, and, if he chooses, may stop and conjecture as to where Captain Tom Erickson moored his canal boat in those riotous days of 100 years ago. The battle started, as battles frequently do, in a saloon, which was chuck full of Irishers and only three Norwegians of whom Big Tom was one. The other two Norwegians got into trouble with some of the Irish and the battle started with the two Norske getting the worst end of the deal. Tom then entered the fracas on the side of his countrymen. When things got to going good Tom found that the odds were too great for old Norway and like a real strategist cast about for some way out. His eyes spied a wooden bench about six feet long, used instead of chairs. He picked this up "and began to swing and brought down a swath with every swing. That got the Irish and they broke for the door and soon had that jammed" because all 30 of them tried to go through at the same time. "But Tom was one of those who believed in follow-up in any good cause and spanked them plenty".

Round one was over and Captain Tom had emerged victorious. He stalked off to his canal boat. Meanwhile the Irish reassembled their scattered forces. They were so mad they felt they could kill Tom if only they could get him into their clutches. Arming themselves with bricks, stones, and clubs they marched down to the boat, 30 or 40 strong, and advised Tom of their coming by throwing bricks through the cabin window. The big Norwegian was ready for them however and the first Irishman up the gangplank was speedily disarmed, picked up bodily by the seat of his pants and the scruff of his neck and thrown back to his comrades. The Irish then tried to rush him but the first one up got the very same treatment as before. He was flung back along the plank with such violence as to knock his companions off like tenpins. Big Tom then picked up the swingle-tree of the boat. This was used to hitch the horses to when the boat was in motion, and was made of hardwood well reenforced with iron. After describing a couple of menacing semi-circles with this lethal weapon, Tom vociferated: "_____ you! I'll kill the first one that tries to get on this boat again !!"

His challenge had no takers however and the Irish finally retired leaving the pillar of Norway master of the field.

On another occasion Tom and the Irish got into an argument at a party. There were many dishes handy and cups and saucers flew through the air in all directions. When the excitement subsided (maybe they ran out of dishes) Tom surveyed the debris and gave the Irish \$25 damages. The Irishers were his best friends after that.

¹He never acquired the drinking habit however.

Later on when more Norwegians were to be found on the canal, Tom associated with another captain named Chris Nelson. Chris was a son of the Nels Nelson whose acquaintance Tom had made in New York. Chris was another big man and was one who was occasionally ugly from drinking too much whiskey. During one such spell he and Tom were unloading salt from Chris's boat and Chris railed at Tom until the latter lost his patience. He picked him up by the clothes on his chest and held him at arm's length against the side of the hold saying:

"If I didn't know your folks I'd give you a good shaking." He then picked up the 300-pound barrels of salt in the hold and handed them, one after the other, up to the deck of the boat at arms length above his head as though they had been pumpkins.

By the early 1850s Big Tom Erickson apparently commenced to spend more time in the Rutland Township, La Salle County, area. Here he was already well known and appreciated for other traits than his great strength and ability in arguing. He carried himself very erect and his appearance commanded respect. He was a good singer and would stand in the corner at a party and sing while people danced. He was also noted for his good memory, especially as to dates and political happenings. In community contests Tom was the champion at wrestling, jumping, lifting, carrying, kicking, and dancing on one foot on the end of a barrel. The latter contest was a question of endurance.

There are stories about Big Tom and his farm friends as well as of the Irish. He was walking through the woods one day when he came across Hans Hanson and a friend trying to load a big log on a wagon. They were having a terrible time, lifting and straining and getting nowhere. Tom laughed good-naturedly and asked them what they were trying to do, then lifted the log on to the wagon like it was a stick.

These stories about his strength spread over the countryside and the nickname, "Big Tom", perhaps helped make him more widely known. Nels Nelson had a horse that could be led to water but not away from it. "I'll lead him", said Tom one day. The horse reared and plunged but Tom hung on. He fell down but still kept his hold. There were many trees and stumps about and Tom wrapped his legs around a stump and clung. The horse reared back and even flattened out. But he was licked, He couldn't budge Big Tom.

This procedure may be recommended to any descendant who wishes to prove that he is "as strong as a horse".

By 1855, when the Stakkerstads(Sampsons) and Tom's mother arrived from Norway, Tom had apparently settled down as he was farming on School Section. It was July and Tom was busy cutting grain with a Foyer reaper. As the latter had no seat Knute Sampson was given the job of riding horseback and guiding it. Tom was also busy cutting hay on the prairie and taking it to Ottawa to sell. Corn brought him 75¢ in gold per bushel. He had chickens, turkeys, and a cow or two.

About the next year Tom Erickson acquired title to this land. It was one of the first farms in the Township, along with those of the Vasies, Shavers, and Parrs. His first purchase may have been at a much earlier date as we know that it consisted of 10 acres purchased from the canal company for \$1.25 per acre. The farm must have been about 80 acres in size as we are told that he paid \$25 per acre for his second 80 acres, and \$42 for his third 80 acres. He always paid cash as he did not believe in going into debt. This was always one of his cardinal principles. If he couldn't pay for a thing, he wouldn't have it. He was also "overconscientious and saw things through".

Also in 1856 Big Tom got married. He was then 43 years old and was living with Lars Erickson, father of Torkel Erickson¹. His wife was Gunla (Julia) Pearson and she turned out to have enough peculiarities, strong mindedness, and inherent wit to be a natural match for the veteran Tom. But Gunla's story demands space of its own and we will not interrupt our saga to present it here, although it may be examined for further light on Tom's character.

¹Statement from Jeannette Mather Lord. Possibly Tom lived at Lars' home but managed his own farm, which might have been close by. Tom also had a friend named Lars Aadland.

Big Tom liked to argue and he was also interested in politics. We do not know whether the first brought about the second or whether the second developed the first but we suspect that the liking and ability for argument induced the interest in its natural field, politics. He was a master of debate and never hesitated for a word.

"I tell you he could talk", says one who knew him.

"Uncle Tom was so big and so tall and then that tongue of his", said a relative. "It was pretty hard to get ahead of him."

"A good memory especially for names and dates stood Tom in good stead in his many arguments on politics."¹

Tom was a Democrat and used to boast that he had voted the Democratic ticket since Polk came into power. He was wont to start an argument with:

"When I came to the United States it was a democratic form of government so why should I ever vote for a Republican or a Whig?"

Tom attended the Lincoln-Douglas debate at Ottawa in 1858 taking young Knute Sampson with him. Tom wore a big silk hat and since he was such a big man -- nearly 6-foot-3, heavy and well-built -- he made a pretty imposing appearance. A little man standing next to him took off his hat when Tom did "cause he knew it was some big bug". Stephen Douglas was Tom's patron saint so when he won the debate over Lincoln it was a big day for Tom. Douglas, the northern Democrat, it will be remembered, was opposed to slavery but strongly in favor of States Rights.

At one political election, Tom and a friend went to a saloon in Ottawa "for their health" as was the custom of the time. Everyone in the saloon was an Abolitionist (Republican?) so Tom got into a big argument. They couldn't beat him at arguing and he got them so mad that they got a rope to hang him. But the authorities got wind of it and nothing was done.

When the election of 1860 came around Tom had some great arguments with his neighbor, an ardent Republican. Tom was for Douglas, of course, and when his friend said that he'd bet anything that Lincoln would be the next president, it was too much for Tom.

"If he gets to be president I'll hang myself from the court-house door and Gunla by my side".

Due largely to the fact that there were four candidates for the presidency, Lincoln won the election. So some of Tom's friends got him a new rope and put a noose in it.²

Feeling ran high of course during the days of the Civil War. Some of the northern faction were nicknamed Copperheads in 1862 because they were supposed to be giving aid and comfort to the Rebellion by trying to thwart the measures of the Government. By the autumn of 1863 the term was synonymous with Democrat.³ Thus the factions were divided as Copperheads and Abolitionists. In Big Tom's vicinity people had to pass by the farm on the way to the polls or to hear political speeches and usually stopped for a drink of water. Big Tom padlocked the pump and started arguments with any Abolitionists who would argue. No matter how mad they got he wouldn't let them drink.

Tom and Gunla lost their first born while living in Rutland Township. Not long afterward Tom made a successful trade for a farm out of the woods and up on High Prairie in Miller Township. The new farm was 100 acres in Section 26⁴ and had only 20 acres of timber. It was also much closer to school -- Bell School.

Tom Erickson's relatives and neighbors found him always helpful, generous, and pretty much good-natured. "He was the kindest-hearted man. He would give a man his last crust", said one. When the Sampsons (See Chapter XIV) came to America they lived for the first four years on low, swampy ground in Earl Township. One day Tom came along in a lumber wagon without any advance notice at all -- in true Big Tom fashion -- and moved the whole family over to High Prairie about 15 miles

¹Last sentence from J.M.L.

²Of course there is the possibility that these two rope stories had the same origin. ³Dates from J.M.L.

⁴Kett, La Salle County, 646. The directory shows his post office as Seneca and evaluates his property at \$2500.

across the Fox River (which they had to ford) to the southeast. He told Uncle Sampson that he was too much of an 'ambition man' to live around in a swamp. There was plenty of high country. Tom fixed the Sampsons out with a boxcar house in which they lived for three or four years.

Tom was helping another new immigrant take out his naturalization papers one time. The bewildered applicant was being asked for the date of his birth and was in great distress.

"Speak up, Ole", said Tom.

But poor Ole could only remember that he was born when his mother's cow had a calf.

Tom gave his sister Maren Sampson a starved-out runt pig one time. Later when he saw the pig was doing well, he kidded her, "Ya, Maren, he will make a 300-pounder yet".

Ole and Sarah Storesund lost one of their yoke of oxen and were feeling pretty sad about it when Big Tom came to see them.

"Well, Ole, if you hadn't have had 'im, you wouldn't have lost anything."

And with this and like nonsense he soon cheered them up.

Tom spent a great deal of money on Julia (Gunla) (See post). He would work and save it. But still he kept something in his pocket for the neighbor children. When Benjamin Larson got a new blue suit with brass buttons, Uncle Tom said, "Here comes the little soldier", and fished a bright silver dollar out of his pocket.

Probably the best statement of the esteem in which his neighbors held him is to be found in the simple fact that they cradled his grain one time to surprise him.¹

"He was an eccentric and outspoken person whose expressions in unexpurgated English are still heard when pioneer stories are retold." wrote Bert Wick, eastern Iowa historian, in the 1930's. "He swore like a trooper. Once on hearing a preacher eloquently pleading for a lost soul, Tom wept like a child. When the minister came back to shake hands with him, Tom said with an oath:

'That was a _____ good sernon. You made me weep that time.'²

Although Tom, a Lutheran by birthright, was not an active worker in any denomination, he was sincere in his religious convictions. The best example of this is to be found in his attitude toward his mother's joining the "Mormon"³ Church -- that is, the Reorganized Church. Ellen's brother Osmund had joined in 1860. (See Chapter XIX for discussion of the "Mormons"³) Ellen had talked with all her children except Tom and they all objected -- the church being much criticized at the time in spite of the fact that only the Utah Mormons practiced polygamy. When she asked Tom, he made an almost historic reply:

"Well Mother, if you are going to be baptized, do it in the name of God". (Gjør det i Gud's navn.)⁴

She was so surprised as he never objected in the least and she felt very good about his answer.

Tom Erickson, realizing the brevity of his own formal education, was very anxious that his second daughter Caroline receive enough schooling. He never wanted her to miss a single day at school but Gunla was lax about the matter and sometimes kept Caroline home to help wash clothes, etc. One day when this occurred, Gunla admonished her daughter not to let her father know. But somehow Big Tom was suspicious and went to Bell School and asked the teacher if Caroline had been to school every day that week. He was furious when he heard she had been absent and scolded Gunla.

Many were the battles of wit -- most of them good humored -- that

¹Big Tom had a friend named Hanson(Hans?). They vowed to attend the funeral of the other, whoever lived the longer. Hanson descendants now live in Nevada, Iowa, and have contacts with descendants of Big Tom.

²Statements from J.M.L.

³Quotation marks are used to indicate the provincial designation. The real name was "Reorganized Church of Latter Day Saints", a church quite separate from the Utah Mormons.

⁴Or "Do it in Jesus' name" according to one account.

took place in the Erickson household. These afforded frequent laughs as they were related at the dinner tables of the relatives. Julia was something of a spendthrift -- for those days at least -- and it kept Big Tom a-humping to outwit her on that score. The Ericksons were of course politically minded, and so all the lamps were named after the Presidents. When Tom's lamp went out he got a real ribbing from Julia. One of the oft-told stories was the "Pien" story. No matter how many cherry pies Julia made, there was never any cherry pie left on the pantry shelf when meal time came. Tom and Caroline would swipe and eat them. "Mother would tell it -- mixing up Norse and English", relates a grand-niece.¹ "We always called for it at every family reunion and we would laugh until the tears ran down our cheeks."

Of course there were additions to the number of stories told about Tom's great strength, even as he grew older.

"He was an awfully big man", related an elderly lady in the Twin Cities. "They had brakes on the wagons but Big Tom would just reach down and grab the wheel with his hand. When he slopped the hogs he'd pick up the whole barrel."

One spring it was too wet to use the corn planter and so Big Tom hung it up on the fence at one end of the field. Folks for miles around used to joke about this since no one else could have done it.

"Do like Tom did; hang it on the fence to dry out", Richard Larson used to say.

When he was about 68 years old he was pitching bundles on his farm with his hired man during threshing. The hired man was as tall and nearly as big as Tom but when he handed up a shock to the wagon on the end of his fork, he bent way down and heaved. Tom just stood upright and handed up the shocks as if it were no effort at all. All the men marvelled: "Just look at that old man pitch bundles!"

When his only child², Caroline, married in 1881, Tom sold out in Illinois and went to live in Walford, Iowa, in order to be near her. Walford was in Benton County in the east central part of the state and at the time was little more than a designation on a map of the Milwaukee Railroad, which had yet to run a train past the spot. (Tom had also seen the first train to run into Ottawa, Illinois.) Tom, as one of the very first Walford settlers paid \$250 for six lots and built a little house quite close to the railroad. The latter was the Cedar Rapids to Kansas City branch of the Milwaukee, and was not completed until the year after Tom's arrival.³ The road was not actually in operation until 1883 and it may have been one of the first trains that started the rain barrel story. Big Tom, it seems, took his baths in the rain barrel. There is not the slightest doubt but that with a man of his proportions, the barrel was very much full of man. Big Tom was busily engaged in his ablutions one day when the engineer of one of the new trains, drifting quietly down grade toward the town, blew his whistle for the crossing. The unfamiliar sound so startled Tom that he jumped, and, of course, the rain barrel jumped with him. So over they went, the both of them.⁴

Tom Erickson spent the balance of his life in the little house in Walford, although he owned a 160 acre farm in Iowa County. He kept a cow and drove a small dun and white Indian pony hitched to a small open buggy. He was scarcely a mile from his cousin Ole Sevig and it was not far to Knute Sampson's and to Tom's daughter's. He would drive over to the latter's three or four times a week and remain awhile after dinner if one of his grandchildren could be persuaded to sit on his lap. When Julia went visiting with him, Tom was always very courteous and helped her out of the buggy.

He was apparently a matchmaker as well as a peacemaker. One time he met an old man who wanted to get married. There were two newcomer girls staying at the Ericksons and Tom went home and told them. One of

¹Jeannette Mather Lord.

²His first born died as mentioned earlier.

³History of Linn County, Iowa, 1838-1923.

⁴I have localized this story at Walford as it is the only place where Tom lived close to a railroad.

them said, "I'll take him.", so Tom went back to the old man with the news and the marriage took place the next day.

On occasion Tom got to the city -- Cedar Rapids. While in the biggest store one time he listened to some men talking about the great size of Chicago.

"You don't know anything about Chicago", said one to Tom.

"I don't, eh?" was the rejoinder. "Why I helped make Chicago. There was only one hotel there then.."

"Such a memory as Tom had", said Knute Sampson. "But he lost it toward the last." He was very fond of Guner Olson. Knute and Guner went over to see him one time and he didn't recognize Guner.

From his bedroom door he hollered at Julia, "You goin' to take tramps in too, now?"

His memory had slipped so that he couldn't be made to understand. But when Knute went over to visit him the following Sunday he recalled and said what a fool he'd been.

Even in this final period of his life our Paul Bunyan was outstanding. Most men at 68 years of age or thereabouts who go into a new community are hardly ever thought about except through an occasional reference to "old Mr. so and so, living in the north part of town". But when Tom died in 1900 his obituary referred to him unequivocally as "Walford's oldest and best known citizen". He was 87 years old and almost needless to say, had never been sick a day in his life. He was buried at Norway, Iowa, in the Lutheran Cemetery -- which has an unsurpassed location at the top of a high hill overlooking many square miles of smiling, fertile farm land.

The remembrance of Tom Erickson, both in Illinois and Iowa (and in other states as well) has already lived far beyond that of most men. "Uncle Tom was a really interesting character and so very much respected and loved by everyone", writes a retired schoolteacher. I have heard so very many things about him... I remember him very well and now I'm so glad we did know him."

But perhaps the best way to finish our "Saga of Big Tom" is to excerpt from an address made by Mr. B. L. Wick, the Eastern Iowa Historian, at a family reunion in Cedar Rapids more than 40 years after Big Tom's death. Mr. Wick had known Tom Erickson, whom he said also went by the name of Abraham Lincoln, for one third of his lifetime.

"There was none more outstanding or more unafraid!"

"I used to bet on the elections with Big Tom. The first time the stake was a \$5 hat which Tom had and which he asserted had been paid for. Tom won. My father told me the debt must be paid but that I must never do it again. To this day I have my doubts concerning the outcome of that election and the degree of defeat suffered by my candidate for we read the results in a Norwegian paper."¹

"Tom had an Irish twang and didn't always deny it."

"If there was ever anybody who needed help he was the first to put down his dollar. When the immigrants came, they came to Tom's."

The foil for the out-of-the-ordinary antics of Big Tom, the Peacemaker, was the eccentric Julia Pearson, his wife. They were a pair in a million.

Born Gunla Serine Persdatter Neset, she was the third of five children belonging to Per² Samuelson and Anna Malinda Roksund. Neset was apparently a farm in Skjold Sogn whose inhabitants attended Avaldsnes Church south of Haugesund on the island Karmoy. Roksund was in Avaldsnes.³ Gunla's older brother, Sam Pearson, had come to America in a very early day -- in fact there is a strong possibility that he was the Samuel Pearson mentioned in recorded history as the one who hauled the Melings and other 1837 immigrants from Chicago to Fox River without pay. In 1850 Gunla came to America and worked for her brother, who was

¹Last sentence, also reference to Lincoln, quoted from J.M.L.

²"Per" was the "old farm Norwegian" name. "Peter" was "Stavanger Norwegian."

³Pronounce "a vals nes". In our traditional accounts often "Alvesnes".

becoming quite well-to-do.

Sam wanted his sister to marry a very well-to-do man by the name of Jonas Sugmastad. She consented and the date was set. The wedding was to be a big affair and invitations were sent out to all the friends and relatives. The wedding dinner was planned and a huge turkey was cleaned, stuffed and ready. A big storm came up -- who can say that it was not a planned part of nature's conspiracy to save the bride-elect for Big Tom? Or dare we assume that it played a part in Gunla's decision? At any rate she turned to the minister's wife and confided that she did not want to marry Jonas Sugmastad.

"Now's the time to holler", said the minister's wife.

So Gunla called the wedding off, the guests were all disappointed, and we wonder who ate the turkey.

The "Big Norwegian" made his first call on Gunla shortly after they became acquainted. He asked her to go to the circus at Ottawa with him. Perhaps it was a case of "opposites attract" for Julia was as short as Tom was tall. She was described as "small but lively and keen as a cricket. Her eyes snapped with vigor." Anyway, she accepted his invitation and became interested in him. "As he went down the walk", she said in later years, "I stood at the window to watch him go saying to myself, 'That's a pretty fine lad.'"¹

Again Julia set a wedding day. Cyrus Shaver was to do the marrying. All the school children came to visit her at Shavers. She told them she really was going to get married but it was a case of crying, "wolf". They didn't believe her and so skipped out and missed things.

One time after she became Mrs. Tom Erickson, they were planning to go on a picnic. Tom told Julia to bake a cake.

"Nobody ever goes to a picnic without cake."

"Well, we aren't going to have any cake", she retorted. And then she made enough dough for an army and baked a whole lot of cakes. She labeled them: "Convention Cake", "Marble Cake", "Baltimore Cake", and so on.

Julia was sick a great deal and sometimes spent long periods in bed.

"That woman et more medicine than there was in any drug store", a nephew said with emphasis. "Uncle Tom would come home with an arm load of it. I think the Doctor was Dr. Kleimer of Seneca. Julia went to bed in the fall and got up in the spring. People always thought she'd die first."

Apparently Julia never was successful in convincing the neighbors that she really was sick. The "cook me a good supper" story which she shares with Andrew Knudson, Big Tom's friend, (See Chapter XVII) is illustrative of this.

Julia got mad at Big Tom one day. "She was never ugly but angry in a nice refined way. "She went to bed and said she wouldn't get up until Tom did something. Accounts vary as to how long she was in bed, or if this was just another of her periodic sojourns there. At any rate Andrew heard about it and drove over to visit them. Tom, of course, gave the customary account that Julia was sick. But Andrew went into the house anyway, sat down beside the bed, and joked with her. She said she couldn't get up --too sick.

Finally he said, "This is all foolishness, Julia. I'm going to unharness my team. Get up and cook a good supper".

When Andrew and Tom came in a little later there was an excellent supper ready and Julia was no longer sick.

Julia had a wonderful command of Norwegian and a quaint way of expressing herself. Irritated when Tom refused to do something she exclaimed, "Han er bare en stridepaase". (He is only a bag of stubbornness). On the other hand it is said that Julia was sometimes referred to as "Kona mot strommen", the stubborn wife.¹

Julia was an expert in Norse cookery and was generous with the products of her art. Both in Illinois and in Iowa, she would send a box of good things over to the home of her niece, Ellen Anna Marthas-datter, whenever she had a chance to send it with someone. There would

¹Material in quotations from J.M.L.

be flatbrød, lefse, kjøtte-kaka, and so on. She often complained that flatbrød couldn't be properly made on American stoves and she longed for her Norwegian baxetelle. She taught her nieces to follow the Hanger custom of dipping the flatbrød in water. Then they spread it with sugar and thought nothing else was such a treat.¹

Big Tom and Julia were back to Illinois on a visit one time in their later years when Tom was given a sack of apples and a jug of wine. Julia carried the wine as she didn't want him to drink any. While going toward the train which was to carry them back to Iowa, Tom stumbled on the tracks in front of it but hung on to the apples. He was picked up by a big trainman. "Just as if we didn't have apples in Iowa", Julia grumbled at him. He got mad and after they were seated on the train Tom took a big swig from the wine jug anyway. She just sat there not saying a word.

During the early years when Julia was having her sicknesses, the doctors, we are told, gave such strong medicine that it spoiled the teeth. Dr. Gimmick told Julia to smoke so her teeth wouldn't go bad. So she did and sometimes would smoke with Tom. She would always get his pipe for him and get a match and light it. However Julia read quite a bit -- Norwegian religious books and papers and poetry² -- and she read in a Methodist paper where smoking would prevent one from living to a good old age. So, although she was already quite old she stopped smoking because she wasn't going to die young. She would never get Tom's pipe after that without first telling him each time what she'd read and that as long as the Methodist paper said so it was fact, and that he'd die young -- although he was 85 or so then.

After Tom's death Julia spent her final years with her daughter Caroline and family and occasionally visited back in Illinois. While staying with the Williamsons one time some of them went berry picking and inadvertently failed to ask her if she wanted to go along. When the party returned they found that Julia was much put out about the oversight. However they fixed her some lemonade and she was soon quite herself again. She was very fond of lemonade and actually preferred it to coffee. Another of her little peculiarities was that of keeping such a hot fire in the stove in winter. She would bring in great apronfuls of cobs from the cobhouse, throw them all into the stove, open the draft wide, and almost sit "on top of the stove". No one else could come near the stove, it was so hot.³

Julia died in 1914 at the age of 89 and was buried beside Tom in the hilltop cemetery at Norway, Iowa.

Big Tom and Julia Erickson had two children: Ellen who died in infancy and was buried in the "Mormon" Cemetery; and Caroline.

Caroline ("Car line" to the Norwegians) was properly educated (as noted above) and given quite a few benefits that most girls did not receive. As the daughter -- and the only daughter -- of a former bachelor who had been in his 40s before marrying, this was to be expected. Every spring and fall she went into Chicago -- she had seen the smoke from the Chicago fire in 1871 -- in order to buy the latest clothes. These were the envy of the young girls of the neighborhood but she was generous in loaning things to them for big affairs.

Besides the latest styles Caroline was naturally attractive, with black hair -- parted straight down the middle as was the custom -- and a pretty round face inherited from the Pearson side of the family. So she never wanted for suitors and occasionally slipped out the back door from a social function at the old Bell School in order to give some of them the slip. On occasion she would pump the family organ and sing "Nellie Grey" to "a roomful of handsome men". Apparently her temperament varied in true woman-fashion. One nice young man who stayed with Tom -- they had lots of company in those days -- was asked if he and

¹Information from Jeannette Mather Lord.

²One of her religious books and a book of poems by Jenson, published in Norway, Iowa, are now in possession of J.M.L.

³The oldest grandson claimed, it was Big Tom, who kept the stove so hot.

Caroline would make a hitch. "No", he said, "She was too uncertain. Smiled one day and things were rosy. Next day things weren't so good." Caroline became engaged to another young man but broke the engagement.

In 1881 she married Jacob Rosdail, a Slooper. Jacob's father, Aave Danielson Rossedal was one of the Quakers who came over on the Sloop Restoration, the Norwegian Mayflower, when it brought the first Norwegian immigrants to America in 1825.¹ Rossedal was a gaard in Tysvaer Parish. Jacob's mother was Gertrude Jacobs and he was the youngest of five children. Like Caroline he was also a favorite child. "When Jake drove into the yard, Aave dropped the milk bucket and ran to open the gate for him." Aave bought him a fine wagon (buggy) to use during his courting days. All the young bloods wanted to use it so Jake hired it out to them at \$1 per night.

Jake paid court to Caroline and it looked as though they'd make a match. But she gave him the air and he went off and married Emma Ham-marn. A little girl was born to this union but both mother and daughter died about two years after the latter's birth. Later Jake married Caroline.

The Rosdails went to Iowa right after their marriage and settled on a farm in Florence Township, Benton County, in the east central part of the state. Here they developed a fine farm and raised a family of seven sons and one daughter. A second daughter died in infancy. Jake built a big modern house which was noted in the community for its fine hardwood floors and beautiful woodwork. He later bought another farm which was one of the most highly improved places in the vicinity of Walford and which was located just one mile west of that town. He put the place up for auction during the boom times of the late 20s and the bids went up above \$250 per acre. However Jake was bidding also and guessed wrong on the last bid so that the farm remained with him. This fortuitous error resulted in the loss of both farms. Nevertheless he retained the esteem of his neighbors as a man who always paid his debts.

Jake and Caroline spent their latter years on a farm in the north-east corner of Iowa County that had been purchased by Big Tom Erickson. Here Jake died in the midwinter of 1928-29. The funeral was held after an unusually heavy blizzard, and neighbors for miles around worked long hours in drifts six to eight feet deep in order to clear a passage for the procession to Norway cemetery.

Caroline continued to live on the Erickson farm with her son, Jake Junior. In 1935, while visiting her daughter in the metropolis of Sioux City, Iowa, she was a party to one of those strange 'its-a-small-world' coincidences that we sometimes hear about. Her granddaughter was attending the college at Sioux City and had a chum who always walked by to go to school with her. This particular morning Caroline's granddaughter was not ready so her chum came into the house and Caroline engaged her in conversation. The girl was planning a visit to her grandparents in Minnesota and it developed that the grandfather, a well-to-do storekeeper, was the one and same man that Caroline had been engaged to more than 55 years before back in Illinois.

Caroline died on the farm in Iowa County in 1936 and was buried on the hilltop at Norway beside Jake.

She is remembered for her good humor and generosity. Never was Norwegian hospitality better practiced than at her bountiful and well-patronized table.

¹That is, first in modern times. See also Chapter III

CHAPTER XIV

In which we move out of the swamps and onto High Prairie

The sixth child born to Erik Nelson and Eli Guttormsdatter Aursland was named Maren after her mother's mother. As a girl Maren worked hard tending sheep and spading the soil. When she was 25 she married Knute Samson Aspeland, born Knute Samson Fjelle (Fjel'da), son of Sam (or Knute?)¹ and Martha Elizabeth Fjelle. Knute's parents moved to Aspeland and it was here that they were living when Knute and Maren Aursland were married.

Knute and Maren settled on Stakkerstad, a gaard to the west and south of Aursland in Avaldsnes Sogn. Stakkerstad was kind of a village and was located near the south end of a long lake called the Stakkerstadvatn. Here they farmed a husmannplass but had it leased for life. The place was all fenced with stones and they had a nice home on it. However as we noted in Chapter II, Maren's mother Eli persuaded them to sell out and go to America where others of the Aursland branch were already located. The proceeds from the sale provided them with passage money.

The trip was made in 1855 on a sailship. There were nine in the party -- Eli Aursland, Knute, Maren, and six children of which the oldest, Knute, was only 11 years old. The crossing took six weeks and three days and they encountered no storms. Although the passengers felt lucky in having such good weather, they were not so fortunate in the matter of health. A number were afflicted with what was then called ship's fever", which, we are told, was something like typhoid. This apparently caused the death of the youngest Stakkerstad child, Guttorm, aged three. He was buried at sea and while we do not know how such burials were handled in those days, it must have been a hard trial for Knute and Maren.² When the boat arrived at Quebec the passengers, of which there were 300, were placed in quarantine and kept there for four weeks. They left quarantine on a Monday, and traveling by boat from Montreal arrived in Chicago the following Sunday. Here they stayed in a freight house until the Sunday after that, when they proceeded by freight train to Ottawa, Illinois. In Ottawa they inquired where they might find Big Tom Erickson. The party spent the night at Bendick Thompsons and Big Tom came up to see them the next morning.

The Stakkerstads, or the Sampsons, as they came to be called -- Knute taking the name Sampson K. Sampson -- squatted in a little bit of a log house on the old Storesund place in Earl Township. This was where Maren's sister, Serena Nelson, was living. The Sampsons had pretty rough going at first. The hard times of 1857-58 and sickness in the family did not help matters. The land where they lived was very low, even swampy, and after they had been there for about four years Big Tom moved them over to High Prairie about 15 miles to the southeast. As mentioned in Chapter XIII he came along one fall day in a lumber wagon without any advance notice whatsoever and persuaded them to move. "He told Uncle Sampson that he was too much of an ambition man to live around in

¹There has always been doubt as to just how the name Samson originated. I am following the name given to me by Knute Sampson (5th. generation), oldest son of the Knute we are here discussing. Yet I still cannot help but wonder why his obituary gives Knute and also why Knute, as the oldest son, would be named "Knute" if his father's father was called "Sam". Nor is "Sam" or "Samuel" a common Norwegian name although there are other instances of "Sampson" as a first name. Then there is the unconfirmed story of Knute Sr's shipwreck and of his choosing the name "S.K. Sampson" on the spur of the moment. Then I have a corner in my memory that comes up with the thought that Knute (5th generation) once said that his father's father was also named Knute. Further why did our subject take the name "S.K. Sampson" if he were not Sampson Knute's son.

²One tradition states that the child did not die until the family reached Illinois and that he is buried in School Section.

a swamp. There was plenty of high country¹. And so they all got in the wagon, six children, possessions, and everything. They didn't have any more than would fill a wagon. And with Big Tom to help they had no loading problems. The house must have been in bad shape or he would have probably picked that up and put it on the wagon too. So off they went across the prairies, Maren holding a small looking glass in her lap. That shouldn't get broken. This was before there was a bridge across the Fox River¹, and even before there was a ferry, so they had to ford it.

The Sampsons squatted on High Prairie² and lived in a box car that Big Tom got for them. This was apparently on one of four 80s claimed by a neighbor who broke 11 acres of land on each 80 and offered to build a house for each immigrant who would settle there. However he was never able to make good on his offer and in three or four years the Sampsons built a house of their own. Meanwhile they got a good start, raising a fine crop of wheat the first year that averaged 33 bushels to the acre. They increased the farm to 160 acres. It was located in Section 13, Miller Township³, eight miles straight north of Seneca but the post office address was Norway, Illinois, where Aave Rosdal, Sloopers, was the first postmaster. Sampson knew the Sloopers and all the other old pioneers.

The years on High Prairie were busier and happier than those in Earl Township. Sampson worked early and late so that the farm would be his unencumbered by debt⁴. New arrivals from Norway made the Sampson's home their headquarters because there were girls to help with the work and Julia Erickson was sick so much of the time. Goude Nelson Oritzland, Maren's nephew, was one of these immigrants. Then, there was frequently lots of company at the Sampsons and many a sixth generation Ikdal recalls good times with the Sampson children.

Maren died in 1881 and was buried on School Section. Sampson married again, in 1885, Magla Olesdatter Alsvik, daughter of Ole and Malin Alsvik of Strand Soan. Magla was a cousin of Andrew Tow, Sampson's son-in-law, and Sampson may have become acquainted with her in Iowa as he had been visiting Tows every year. After their marriage in that state the couple very shortly returned to Illinois.

Of Sampson's later life it is written⁵ that he would take a guest about the farm telling him about the crops and explaining the improvements he had made in the 50 years he had lived there. He was a lover of fine horses and there was scarcely anyone who had finer or more horses than he had. He always wished to drive the best team on the farm as he did when younger. He spoke the Norske sprog and was a Lutheran and a Democrat.

Sampson K. Sampson died on Oct. 27, 1912. The funeral was held on Oct. 31 and was conducted by Pastor Ingham of Newark. Burial was made in the old Norse cemetery on School Section.

Now the children of Knute Samson Aspeland (Fjelde) (Stakkerstad) or Sampson K. Sampson, and his wife Maren Eriksdatter Aursland, were these: Knute, Erik (Ira), Martha Elizabeth, Ellen Serena, Bertha Maria (Betsy), Guttorm (Thomas), and Serena Olena (Sallie). The first six were born on Stakkerstad but the youngest was born in La Salle County, Illinois.

Knute Sampson the oldest child, was the patriarch of the Aursland branch of the Ikdals during the 1930s and until his death in 1942. Born Knute Knuteson Stakkerstad, July 13, 1844, he was 11 years old when his family came to America. Young as he was he hired out to help support them. He worked at hay-making and threshing and received \$3 per month the first year. The second year he got \$11. The highest wages were \$14 per month and some were glad to work for their board. Three months

¹The first bridges were washed away.

²The year has been given as 1860 but must have been 1859.

³Kett's La Salle County, Ill., 649

⁴Wording adapted from his obituary, supplied by Jeannette Mather Lord.

⁵Ibid.

of the year were considered sufficient for schooling. Oxen were used for hauling through the mud.

With his Uncle, Big Tom Erickson, Knute went to the famous Lincoln-Douglas Debate at Ottawa. He was much impressed by the big black horses which drew the carriage in which Douglas rode. Knute, like his father and cousin Nels, was always interested in good horses.

In 1878 Knute Sampson married Caroline Eriksdatter Coltveit, better known as Carrie Erickson¹, and started farming. They lived on Section 14, Miller(?) Township, and their postoffice address was Norway, Illinois². Later they moved to Benton County, Iowa. Carrie died in 1893 having given birth to nine children. Knute remarried Laura (Laurentsa?) Samuelson in 1895 but she died ten years later.

The Sampson farm was located a mile west and a mile north of the town of Walford. It was less than a mile from that owned by Knute's second cousin, Ole Sevig, who was just a few months older than he. In the Cedar Rapids³ paper in 1939 the pictures of the two cousins and short stories about each were published with the captions:

"Through 95 years in Parallel Paths"

"Friends for 3/4ths of a Century"

Ole died the following year at the age of 96 but Knute lived nearly two years longer. At the Erickson-Aursland Family Reunion⁴ held in Cedar Rapids in 1941 Knute was the central figure for the last time. Mr. B.L. Wick, eastern Iowa historian, spoke in tribute to him, and remarked that there were very few men yet living who had seen and heard Lincoln.

The second one in the Sampson family was Ira, born Erik Knuteson Stakkerstad. He married his second cousin, Serena (Sara) Ellen Olson, whose family (Søvik) has been discussed in Chapter X. Ira and Sara Ellen lived on a farm near Odell, Livingston County, Illinois after their marriage. In 1890 they moved to Humboldt County, Iowa where Sara Ellen's brother George had located the year before. Here the youngest of their six children was born. The farm was located in Corinth Township and consisted of 320 acres -- the N.E. $\frac{1}{4}$ Section 30 and the S.W. $\frac{1}{4}$ of Section 29. Sara Ellen died in 1922 and Ira spent his last years at Humboldt and in the home of his daughter Eva, where he died. He was laid to rest beside his wife in Corinth Cemetery.

Martha Elizabeth Sampson was the third in the family. She had to go out and work -- although she was only seven -- when the family arrived in America, so she learned the language very soon. She took care of children and did housework. When she was 21 she married Andrew H. Anderson, the oldest of eight children born to Enar Aasen and Margreta Gunnerson⁵. Andrew took the letter "H" for purposes of identity. He was born on "School Section", Miller Township. After marriage the couple rented a farm in Miller Township but moved on to a farm of their own in February of 1875 when the third child was three months old. In 1902, when their only son married, they purchased an eighty in Section 14 from their brother, Jeremiah Anderson, who lived one and one half miles west of it. They bought a house in Sandwich, Illinois, in the fall of 1917 and retired. Here they died just five months apart. Both are buried in School Section Cemetery.

The fourth child in the Stakkerstad or Sampson family was Ellen Serena. She married Andrew Tow, born in Norway as Endre Taug. Endre's father was Sjur Varvig who came to the gaard Taug and married Martha Taug. She had inherited Taug and so Sjur lived there. Either he or Martha (probably the latter) had been married before as Endre had an older half-sister Sarah⁶. He also had a twin brother Lars and a brother Ole, four years older. Endre's father died when he was only three years old and his mother when he was only nine. Endre came to America

¹The names "Chjoshaus" and "Madison" are also mentioned.

²Kett, La Salle County, Illinois, p.649

³Metropolis for a large section of eastern Iowa.

⁴Although the title implies only one of the eight major Ikdal branches, the reunion was attended by members of other branches.

⁵The other children in order of age were : Martha, Jeremiah, Helen, Malina, Cornelius, Abel, William.

⁶Sarah married and had quite a family but died comparatively young.

in 1853 and located at Leland where Ole had gone the year before.

Andrew and Ole Tow¹ made their home with Andrew's future Aunt, Serena Nelson, on what subsequently was called the old Storesund place. They came to think of Sarah as their mother. Andrew worked around in Illinois for more than 20 years but after his marriage -- he was then 37 -- went to Benton County, Iowa. Here he settled on a farm in Florence Township east of Norway, Iowa. When their house burned down in 1900 the Tows purchased the adjoining farm and moved on it². The total acreage of the home farm was thus about 360 acres and part of it lay just across the road west of Jacob Rosdails. All seven children were born there.

Andrew Tow went back to Norway on a visit in 1880. He probably knew that Gunnar and Tollag Olson had sent for their mother Inga and sister Martha to come to America, because all three returned together. Also in the party were Ellen Gronestad and Knute Fjelde (Williams), (nephew of Sampson K. Sampson), tickets for whom were provided by Andrew.

In the fall of 1912 the Tows retired to the city of Cedar Rapids where Andrew died on his 78th birthday, two and one half years later. He was buried in the Norway Cemetery. Ellen survived him by more than 16 years living in the big house on 2nd.Ave.East. Among the relatives she was noted for her trances³.

"We went to Tows for a visit", writes one of the cousins. "Ellen had her usual evening "trance" or monologue. They were very touching. It was the first time I had experienced it and Ralph and I were much touched."

Ellen died in Cedar Rapids and was buried in Norway Cemetery.

Ellen's sister, Bertha Maria or Betsey Sampson married Jeremiah Anderson, brother of Andrew, and the third child in the Enar Aasen family mentioned. They settled on 80 acres in Section 14, Miller Township belonging to Betsey's father, Sampson K. Sampson. After a few years they bought the place but in 1902 moved to a 200 acre farm one half mile south and three miles west. This farm they also eventually purchased. Jeremiah died in 1912, as a result of an injury received from a horse, and was buried in the Section Cemetery. Betsey continued to run the place until her son -- there was only one son among the eight children to reach maturity -- gradually took it over. In 1922 she wintered in California with her cousins, Sarah Christian and Mary Mather, returning by way of the Canadian Rockies and Saskatchewan. Betsey died on the home farm at the age of 83 and was buried beside her husband on School Section. The sixth child in the Stakkerstad or Sampson family was Guttorm or Thomas. He died on the way to America when only three years old and was buried at sea⁴.

Serena Olena(Sina) or Sallie was the youngest of the Sampsons and was the only one to be born in America. She first saw the light of day in the log cabin on the old Storesund place. Her earliest memories were of the box car house that Big Tom got for the Sampsons to live in on the prairie eight miles north of Seneca, Illinois; and of the Indians. The Sampson children built a playhouse on the roof of the box car and had a great time until their father made them remove it. Then one time Chief Shabbona -- a famous Indian chief -- and several Indians stopped at the Sampsons and wanted a ride to Ottawa. Sallie was scared stiff and hid under the bed. Eventually the Indians and her

¹The name was also spelled "Tau". "Taug" was, quite properly, used on Andrew's passport.

²One of the stories told with laughter among the relatives was the story of the newcomer who was churning for Ellen Tow one time. Ellen told her to take the cork out and let the gas escape. The churner took the instructions too literally and started to churn without the cork.

³The word "trance" has several definitions in Webster but should be considered here under the following: "A state of profound abstraction of mind or spirit, as in religious contemplation".

⁴Another tradition states that he died of typhoid fever and is buried in School Section.

father went off in the wagon together¹.

Our forefathers often told their somewhat skeptical youthful descendants that they had good times when they were young too. Here is an interesting bit of concrete evidence of this in an unsigned letter dated July 14, 1875, at Manlius, Illinois.

"Sallie went to Ottawa and Sulphur Springs and went to Norway and danced all night (July 3rd). She went with Thomas Johnson, Jake Rosdail and Caroline Erickson. They were to three towns before they got her (Caroline) rigged out. She was dressed in white."²

Sallie married William E. Williamson, whose parents' name was Storm (Straum? Støren?), and had seven children. William died in 1914 and Sallie 10 years later.

¹Shabbona was chief of the Pottawattamies and was a famous man in the early history of the middle West. He died in 1859 according to Jeanette Mather Lord. If tradition is here correct, Sallie would have been only two. This does not invalidate the story since it does not say that Sallie herself remembered Shabbona.

²For this gem we are indebted to the painstaking old-letter research of J.M.L.

Chapter XV

Was Erik from Aursland the Pathfinder?

Jeannette Mather Lord,
Elisdatterdatterdatter

Erik Erikson, Eli's and Erik's next child, came to America the year before Tom. This Tom himself told Bart Wick of Cedar Rapids, Iowa. I can find no evidence to disprove this statement though it is contrary to the later tradition that "Tom was the first to arrive in America, when Andrew Jackson was president." The date of Tom's coming has been definitely established as Sept. 14, 1837.¹ At this time Jackson was not president for Van Buren had been inaugurated the March before.

While Erik's name is not found in the passenger lists of the only two ships, "Norden" and "Den Norske Klippe", which sailed from Norway to America in the year 1836, it is known that other immigrants went that year by sloop to Göteborg where passage to New York was secured.² Erik Knudson, a neighbor and close friend of the families on Erland and Aursland, from Strøm, a gaard next to Erland, emigrated in 1836. This Erik Knudson may have been Erik Erikson's godfather and it is my opinion, based on scraps of conversation heard in my childhood, that Erik Erikson may well have accompanied Erik Knudson to America the year before Tom came. Though only fourteen years old at this time, Erik probably would be almost ready for confirmation, after which he must look for a job. Bart Wick has compared conditions in Norway in the 1830s with the years we knew in the 1930s when, during the depression, jobs for those starting out in life did not exist. Eli and Erik encouraged their children to emigrate to the New World where there would be better opportunities for them to establish themselves economically. Nothing marks them so definitely as liberal and progressive as this decision when many parents as well as the clergy and officials, reflecting the attitude of the government, opposed emigration.

In Illinois Erik acquired horses and cattle. This seems a bit unusual for a hired man. But during the depression years following the panic of 1837, because of the money famine, farmers were often so short of cash that they paid their hired men in stock. Tom was so paid for his work during his first winter in Illinois. Apparently Erik kept his stock. This certainly would be news to send back to the old country. That it fits into the history of these years of hard times when Illinois was by-passed as a plague spot by those moving west, adds credence to Tom's statement to Bart Wick that Erik came the year before he did. This would make Erik the pathfinder, the first of the slegt³ to arrive in America.

During the years in Illinois when Tom worked on the Illinois-Michigan Canal, he and Erik "batched it" on a small piece of land in School Section with some chickens, turkeys and a cow or two.

Erik was born, we think, April 4, 1822, on Aursland. He died in the Fox River Valley in 1850, not of cholera, says tradition, but the cause of his death and the day of the year have not been recorded. Nels Serenason wrote, "I remember when he died. I was with mother there. He died in Uncle Tom's cabin near Marseilles." After the death of his mother, Eli, his remains were taken up and placed beside hers in the old Norwegian Cemetery called the School Section Cemetery, Indian Creek, La Salle Valley, Illinois.

¹See J. H. Rosdail's account of Tom's coming, Chap. XIII.

²Theodore C. Blegen, Norwegian Migration to America, 1:72.

³Family.

Serena from Aursland follows Erik and Tom across the Atlantic

Jeannette Mather Lord,
Elisdatterdatterdatter

Of Eli Serena, daughter of Eli and Erik on Aursland, Hazel Egeland Thorson writes: "My grandmother was born on Øritzland¹ in Skjold, Norway, Feb. 2, 1825, and was baptized in a church near there. In the same church, she read for confirmation and was confirmed by Rev. Hastad. She was given good instruction which was never forgotten."

After confirmation, Serena went into service in Haugesund. Here in 1846 she married Ole² Nelson, a cooper from Voss. They lived as renters on Storasund on Karmø, an island in Avaldnes Parish, just across Karmsund from Haugesund. In his desire to get ahead, Ole, in addition to his trade as cooper, took on a job of packing fish. This "work was hard, too hard."

On Karmø there was much talk of America, for Kleng Peerson had visited many of the homes on the island in 1842. When once a year a letter came from America with news of Erik, Guttorm, and Gamle Meling, on which postage amounting to the equivalent of one dollar was paid, the whole community gathered to hear it read. None of the three regretted their decision to emigrate and all urged others to follow them. In the autumn of 1848, there was the third successive poor potato crop. On Oct. 23, Serena gave birth to a son, her first-born, who was christened Nels at the old historic parish church at Avaldnes built in 1250. To give this son a chance in the world and to leave him a farm of his own was undoubtedly one of the reasons back of their decision to emigrate. It eased things when Eli gave her wholehearted approval to the plan. When Serena, wishing to share her good fortune with her sister Anna Marthe, proposed that she accompany them to care for young Nels on the journey, Eli decided for Anna Marthe that this was the wise course.

About May 23 they sailed from Stavanger on a two-masted, square-rigged boat, a Kohler brig, "Favoriten", on its maiden voyage with Captain Westergaard in command. It took six weeks to make the voyage. Serena and Anna Marthe brought for the journey their bedding, including the bulky feather beds and eiderdown coverlets; a hand mill, a copper kettle, and a copper coffee pot for cooking. For provisions, they carried "flat brød", cheese, smoked meat, dried fish, coffee, and meal. All this was packed into chests."

"Their space in the boat was very limited and, as they were required to carry enough food for the voyage, they packed very little clothing -- All had to cook [in turn] over an open fire on deck and carry the prepared meal back to their bunks where trunks [chests] were used as tables.... The food...was mostly gruel [porridge]. Sometimes the sea was so rough the meal would be dashed from their tables to the floor and was often lost entirely."³ Much of the time they were so seasick they could not eat. There were storms and high seas. "The death of a six months old baby caused a large shark to follow the Favorite for days until the baby was buried at sea."⁴

Reported in New York on June 26,⁵ the "Favorite" was held in quarantine, not docking until July 4. As they knew nothing of the Ameri-

¹Øritzland is the riksmaal (language of the educated classes) for Aursland.

²Pronounced Ola or Olah.

³Mrs. F.L. Shirer, Pontiac, Ill., was told these details by her mother-in-law, Mrs. Bertha Christine (Økland) Mitchell, who came on this same boat.

⁴Ibid.

⁵Listed in the newspaper Shipping and Commercial List and New York Price Current, New York: June 30, 1849.

can Independence Day, the booming of the cannon and the firing of fire-crackers gave them the impression that a battle was in progress. After two days of waiting in New York, Captain Westergaard accompanied them as far as Troy.¹ Surely it was this part of the journey by canal boat to which Serena referred when she said, "The immigrants were shipped about like cattle."

From Buffalo to Chicago they traveled by the steamship "Niagara". On board with them was a large group of Germans. "Many of them were ill and this was the Norwegians' first contact with cholera."² No one met them in Chicago, nor did they know anyone in the city at this time. From here to Ottawa they traveled on a boat pulled by horses through the Illinois-Michigan Canal, which Serena's brother, Big Tom, had helped to build, and which was opened for traffic April 20 the previous spring. "This was a long journey about which much could be told.... There was much sickness among the passengers and many deaths occurred. All those whose destination was Ottawa reached there alive, but many died immediately afterwards. This was the terrible sickness, cholera, which wrought havoc among the poor immigrants and spread frightful devastation over their settlements."³ Miraculously none of the family from Storasund or Aursland caught this disease.

Susan Nelson tells us that Serena was busy on this canal trip caring for those who were ill with cholera. Arriving in Ottawa, they went to the home of Serena's kinsman, Osmund, or Gamle Meling, in Mission Township, near Baker. This summer Gamle Meling was building his new frame house. Serena and Ole moved into the discarded Meling cabin.

Special preparations were made for their first Christmas in the New World, following as much as possible the Norwegian customs. Serena did the "Christmas wash", which includes every piece of clothing and linen in the house. As new clothes were not obtainable, the old ones were carefully mended and the shoes were polished. Everything in the cabin was cleaned and scrubbed. Even the pail in which they fed the pig was scoured. Using a brush made from an old broom, Ole whitewashed the walls of the cabin. The Norwegian Christmas begins about four o'clock on Christmas Eve. For their Christmas feast that night they had no Yule pork. "The very best they had to eat was made, lefse, potato cakes, rice pudding and kringler. .. On Christmas morning they lay abed rejoicing in their white clean walls...and they were very happy" as they began the Christmas hymn:

"En dag er os en Fresler fodt."

("Today unto us a Savior is born.")⁴

In later years Serena always carried breakfast to her children in bed on Christmas morning.

From Sissy Serenasdatter and her daughter Hazel Egeland Thorson, we have these Norwegian recipes which were great favorites with Serena.

Lefse

3 potatoes, mashed and cold add flour, like piecrust
salt 1 cup milk with some sweet cream in it
Knead in the flour until quite stiff and roll on board very thin.
Fry on griddle.

Kringler

1½ cups sugar	1 teaspoon baking powder
1 cup sour cream	1 " soda
1 " milk	salt
1 egg	flour to make a nice dough

Roll out thin and bake in oven.

Note: these are often rolled the size of the little finger and the ends are crossed for baking; this makes a tiny cookie with a hollow center.

¹Theodore C. Blegen, Norwegian Migration to America, 2:27.

²Mrs. F. L. Shirer. (See note ante.)

³Mrs. Bertha Christine (Økland) Mitchell, writing in Visergutten (a Norwegian-language paper published in Canton, S.D.), date unknown.

⁴No. 10 in Anna Martha's Guldberg Psalmbok.

Fattigmannsbakelse

2 eggs well beaten	2 tablespoons sugar
2 tablespoons water	pinch of salt
2 " sweet cream	flour enough to stir quite stiff

Fry in hot lard.

Note: many would cut these in triangles or long diamond-shaped pieces. Make a lengthwise slit in the center of the diamond, pull one corner through slit and fry.

Gronna-gröt (a pudding)

Take $\frac{1}{2}$ gallon sweet milk; boil in a large kettle; add 2 cups sour milk, 3 well beaten eggs, $\frac{1}{2}$ cup sugar. When the milk comes to a boiling point, add the other ingredients; do not stir; boil it slowly until reddish-colored chunks form in it. Serve when cool.

Norwegian Rice Pudding

Cook the rice in milk in a big kettle on top of the stove, cooking it a long time. It must be stirred continuously. When done sprinkle cinnamon and raisins on it. When served, put a little butter in center of dish. Note: often the Norwegians put one almond into the rice to bring good luck to the one to whom it was served. The dab of butter in the center of pudding or porridge was called "et Smørrøye".

Potato Cakes

These were made almost the same as lefse but not rolled as thin.

Later Ole purchased the squatter cabin built by Mads Madson, and one hundred and twenty acres of land lying next to the Meling farm, for \$1.25 an acre. After a time he bought forty acres at \$3 an acre. Then there is a deed, a government grant from Franklin Pierce to Ira Thomason¹ and Ole Nelson, involving one hundred and sixty acres of land, dated Aug. 4, 1853. This last piece of land was needed to give them access to the main road.² Later misunderstanding due to this deal was to be the cause of Ole's undoing.³

Soon after the birth of his daughter, Amelia, the winter when Andrew and Lars Tow were living at Storasund, Ole had a streak of bad luck after a series of prosperous years. He and Serena were sad over the loss of one of their yoke of oxen. Later Ole lost a horse and he was especially downhearted as he began to need him for the spring work. Then too, his wheat crop of the year before had not been sufficient to carry the family through the winter. Neither had there been enough fodder for the cattle. It is believed that Ole mulled over these problems as he went to town one day in April 1857. For him, Ole Nelson, to run out of food for his family and cattle in the spring dearth was inconceivable. In this mood of discouragement, when he reached town, he was told by the land agent that Gamle Meling had tricked him in that land deal and he, Ole, was in danger of losing the last acres added to his farm. This blow was crushing to Ole for not only was he to lose his land but he would lose it in a manner that deprived him of his confidence in Gamle Meling, his wife's kinsman, his neighbor, and his most trusted friend.

Serena rocked the cradle into the wee hours of the night waiting for Ole to come from town. As the hours passed a bird dashed itself against the window pane, a sure sign of death and disaster. Finally she heard the wagon creaking up the long lane and past the log cabin to the barnyard.

Time passed. Ole did not come in. In the gray dawn, carrying a lantern, Serena hurried to the barn. She found the horses unhitched. She came upon Ole lying in the passage way. She raised his head and

¹Gamle Meling's son.

²J. H. Rosdail gives these land items. See Chapter XVIII.

³Putting together the information gathered by J. Hart Rosdail from Ole Sevig and Knute Marenson, Bart Wick's version of the story, and that of Rachel Mather Bush who heard it from relatives visiting at Evergreens, we get the full story, I think.

he died in her arms.

In time the story came out. There had been no trickery on the part of Gamle Meling. The land agent with his clever rascality hoped to profit by stirring up a quarrel over the title to the land. His schemes were laid bare. Serena did not lose the land. But Ole had committed suicide.

In 1858 Serena, now Sarah,¹ Nelson remarried. Her husband; John Hanson, had come to America from Ostenstad in Skjold, Norway, in the summer of 1854 before his twenty-fifth birthday. His boat was six weeks on the voyage and in the later part of the trip there was much anxiety lest the food supplies become exhausted. By this time, the tide of immigration had shifted from New York to Quebec. The year before, 1853, had been a bad cholera year. There was cholera on John's ship. After caring for his shipmate, Ira Sawyer,² who had contracted the disease, John left him in quarantine in Quebec and came on by railroad to Ottawa, Illinois.

John was a good farmer and under him Storasund prospered. He it was who planned and built the fine new house for his Sarah. All the young people in the family had a strong affection for him. His daughter-in-law, Susan Chantland Nelson, speaks of the good times his grandchildren always had with him. He was a big man, a year and a half younger than Sarah, was very jolly and always saying such funny things as "Shoes that are too big, fall off." "When the fox joins the wolf, the barn yard is emptied." "You can't say more by talking louder." "The only way to the end of the road lies over the beginning."

John Hanson died in 1907 when eighty years old. Sarah died in 1915, aged ninety. She had outlived both her husbands and all her søs-kende.³

"Grandmother was...noted for her fine hospitality," writes Hazel Egeland Thorson. "She made everyone feel welcome. She could visit with young folks as well as with older folks. When newcomers came, at that time oftener than in later years, she would make a home for them in the log cabin which had not much room but they all said she had room in her heart. They stayed with her until they got work...."

"Andrew and Lars Tow came from Norway...to Grandmother's.... They came into the yard and saw grandmother stirring rice in an iron kettle for the evening meal.... The Tow twins always spoke of that good meal ...and felt attached to Grandma as their first home was with her after they arrived in America.... They even had a Tow reunion and had one of Lars' granddaughters act out like my grandmother did at the time they arrived on this place and saw her sitting in the yard by the log cabin, stirring rice in an iron kettle.

"Our house roomed a good many. Ole Sevig, Dave Olson, Ole Watland, all made their home here after their arrival in the United States.... Uncle and Aunt Sampson came here from Norway with five children; Sally, the sixth, was born here.... Watney from Chicago and three children lived here. Gunder Økland with three children lived here quite a while.

"Grandma started smoking a clay pipe for toothache in her fifties. She continued smoking until her last days."

Two of Serena's pipes were left at Nels' home, all black and smelly. They boiled them out; one of the boys has one and Edith the other.

"She never would hide her smoking as others did."

In the early days "snakes would peep up through the cracks in the cabin floor while she was spinning."

"She picked wild strawberries to sell to folks who came out from Ottawa and used the money to buy a Bible."

At one time when the roads over the swampy land were impassable, she couldn't go to the mill to have flour ground, and for three weeks she had no bread to give her family, only prairie chickens.

When one visited her, she would be so sorry that she didn't have everything in the pantry for company. "Yet she would fill you to bust."

¹Probably about 1851 Serena americanized her name to Sarah at the same time Anna Marthe changed her name to Anna Martha.

²See discussion at end of Chapter XXII.

³Brothers and sisters.

...Then when she didn't have anything, she would brag about what a big dinner she had. She was a good one and lots of fun.... Quite a card."

Like all good Norwegians, the family gave her a nickname--Serena Bitlada, the headstrong, "just like her Mormor¹ Maren," said Ole Sevig. Bitlada is old Norse and has been used as a nickname since Saga times.

Serena kept open house. Anyone who didn't have a home was welcome. She read a great deal and had a marvelous memory. She was very distinguished-looking. "Tall and spry...just as erect as a young girl... quite a talker and she meant what she said." "Mathias Sawyer, a neighbor and second cousin, and Serena were great friends.... 'She could talk,' said Sam Sawyer. 'Every rainy day Mathias streaked it across to Serena's.'" "Serena was smart and got around and knew everybody."

She visited her son Nels and his wife often. Once she queried, "What do you think of an old lady like me coming all this way?" The Nelsons had a full length mirror in the hall. When she looked at it the first time she asked, "Who is that old lady?" but she caught on before anyone could answer. On the way to visit Nels, she became interested in a young married couple who were tenderly kissing each other goodbye at a station. "John and I," she commented, "did not feel that way. I just told him to feed the chickens and ducks and how to tend the calves."

A good church member, Serena remained true to the Lutheran teachings. Her earnestness, tempered by realism and humor, made her very human. Long after her death, her colorful personality remains a living memory.

(The remainder of this chapter is written by J. Hart Rosdail.)

The oldest son of Eli Serena Eriksdatter Aursland and Ole Nelson Storesund was called Nels. He was baptized in the old historic church at Avaldsnes on the island Karmoy and came to America with his parents when only six months old, that is, in the spring of 1849. He grew up on the old Storesund place so often referred to previously and then went to Benton County, Iowa, and broke prairie for Andrew Tow.³ From here Nels went to Ft. Dodge, Iowa, where he and a friend, John Nolan (Knute's brother), decided to go to South Dakota. They traveled with a lumber wagon and mules to a place not very far from Vermillion in the southeastern corner of the state. Nels was 22 or 23 years old at the time. He and John homesteaded on two quarter sections which touched at one corner. Each man erected a shanty on the corner nearest his buddy. Nels' pony got scared one evening and tipped over his cabin -- which gives a good idea of the size of the latter. Nels and John returned to Iowa for the winter but went back to Dakota the following summer. John fell in with a bunch of bums and was killed.

Nels came back from Dakota and rented a farm near Ft. Dodge, three or four miles from a man by the name of Tom Thomason Chentland. Nels paid court to Tom's daughter, Susan Smith Chentland. Susan was born in a log house near New Glarus, Primrose Township, Dane County, Wisconsin. Her mother's maiden name was Ellen Kristena Petersdatter Chentland,⁴ the duplication of name being due to the fact that Tom had moved on to his wife's farm in Norway after their marriage. Susan's oldest brother had come out to Iowa first (in 1872), purchased a farm in Badger Township, Webster County, and returned for the rest of the family. It was at this new farm that Nels O. Nelson and Susan Chentland were married late in 1873.

The first year after their marriage they rented. Then Nels traded his claim in Dakota toward a home farm of 160 acres in Corinth Township, Humboldt County. The early 1870s were still pioneering years in northwest Iowa. There was a fairly, good house on the place but no other buildings. One of Nels' experiences was driving horses across

¹Grandmother.

²Freda S. Harold, Baker Library, Dartmouth College, Hanover, N.H.

³Nels had a new pair of boots which he prized very highly but Andrew got hold of one by mistake and wore it out.

⁴She was German and Danish.

a frozen river. He used a whip to keep them moving fast so they would not break through. There were very few trees in the region and the Nelsons experienced storms which swept across the prairies with nothing to hinder them. There were often blizzards of great suddenness and severity. It might be nice and sunny with no sign of a storm but in ten minutes time the snow might be blowing so thick and fast that a man could not tell where he was.

For protection against these storms the early settlers planted trees as fast as they could. On the Des Moines River across from the Nelson's home stood a giant maple tree. People came far to get seeds.

In a few years they transplanted the young trees so that they stood four or five feet apart. The Nelsons also grew their own walnut grove by planting the walnuts and later transplanting to a grove. The trees bore nuts in five years. Not many trees grow faster than walnuts, according to our Nelson pioneers.

Nels bought and sold many pieces of land during his lifetime and so it is not surprising that the family moved when the youngest child was five years old. The new home was on three 80s, three miles nearer the town of Humboldt. Nels also owned five 40s three miles from his first farm but never lived there. After five years on the new farm the Nelsons retired to Humboldt and lived there for at least 12 years.

When Tom and Ellen Chentland went to North Dakota they had Nels sell their stuff. In this way he got started as an auctioneer, and followed the profession for 30 years. This kept him away from home a great deal and there were some weeks when he was gone every day. When his hearing failed Nels gave up the practice. He also had other contacts with the public as he served as County Treasurer of Humboldt County for four years.

Leaving Humboldt, Nels and Susan went to Saint Paul, Minnesota and lived for 11 years. Following this they spent 13 years in Minneapolis. In later years Nels became very hard of hearing but he was "a great talker (a quality possibility inherited from his mother) and liked to talk about the events of long, long ago. He had a good memory for this and seemed to remember even little details that most people had forgotten. He died in 1940 when approaching the age of 92. Susan was still living in Minneapolis in 1941.

Second in the family of Ole and Serena Nelson Storesund was a girl named Amelia Inger. She was born in the log house on the Storesund place and grew up there. After completing her early education Amelia spent a term at Leland where there was sort of a high school which issued Teachers' certificates. She was a bright girl and very much interested in study so it was not surprising that when she received her certificate she was adjudged head of her class.

Although only 16 years old, Amelia Nelson taught three terms of school in District 7. A term consisted of three months in those days and there were two terms, winter and summer. At the end of her second summer term she became sick with what was probably pneumonia and died after one and one-half weeks illness. Burial was in Baker Cemetery.

Half-brother to Nels and Amelia Nelson was Hans Ole Hanson, the oldest child of Serena Aursland's second marriage. Hans was also born in the old Storesund log cabin. He married a neighbor girl by the name of Rachel Bergeson. She was the oldest of six children born to Ole Bergeson Uhr¹ and and Oguta (Augusta) Pedersdatter Stakland who lived just east of the Storesund place.

Hans and Rachel Hanson settled in northwest Iowa after their marriage. They bought 80 acres three miles south of Linn Grove, Buena Vista County, and their oldest child was born there. After a few years they bought a farm about ten miles west of Humboldt and not far from the town of Pioneer. Here the second and third children were born and then Hans sold and bought about two miles from Linn Grove. However his health was poor so he rented the place and built a house in town. He then bought and shipped livestock.

In the summer of 1915 Hans and Rachel and three or four other couples from Linn Grove went to California on a sight seeing trip. For

¹In Aardal (or Ørdal).

this trip they are to be commended. Far too many of our forefathers passed on without taking advantage of opportunities for seeing the West -- a land which affords the greatest variety of natural scenery to be found on the globe. Hans died the following fall and was buried in the Linn Grove Cemetery. Rachel has continued to live at Linn Grove where her children have been able to keep her company.

Ira Hanson was fourth in the Nelson-Hanson family. When he was 25 years old he went out to Linn Grove and improved an 80 acres which his father had bought. Like his brother Hans, Ira married an Illinois neighbor girl. She was Isabelle Annette (Nettie) Anderson and she was born in the northwest corner of the section in which the Storesund place was located. She was the fifth of eight children belonging to Andrew B. Anderson, who was born in America and whose family will be discussed early in Chapter XX. Her mother was Malinda Molan, a first cousin of Knute S. Sampson (5th. generation).

Ira and Nettie set sail on the sea of matrimony by going to northwest Iowa and living on the before-mentioned 80 acres. It was located three miles south and one-half mile east of Linn Grove and was later increased to 160 acres. Here all seven children were born. Nettie died here in 1925 but Ira continued to live on the farm until his death 14 years later. Both are buried at Linn Grove.

The only daughter among the John Hanson children, Anna Matilda, was one of the most widely known and one of the best liked members of the entire Aursland branch of the family. She married Peder Aadneson Egeland, who was born on the gaard Egeland near Sandnes, a town south of Stavanger, Norway. He was the second of ten children born to Aadne Egeland and Anna Bjelland. As a youth Peder herded sheep but when he was 23 he struck out for America to earn money to help his parents who were having financial difficulties at home.

Traveling alone Peder Egeland went from Stavanger to England and from England to America, the latter part of the trip taking three weeks. He landed in New York and went on to Leland, Illinois, where he arrived April 4, 1885, without a cent in his pocket. Osmund Meling Jr. (his future wife's cousin) saw him and noting the red ticket, which meant "emigrant", invited him home to dinner. This made a big impression on Peder. He then went to Earlville where a first cousin was living.¹

While working in the vicinity of Earlville, Peter was in town one time when he noticed a big bunch of girls. They were probably doing the same thing as the girls of today -- pretending that they did not know the boys were looking at them. Anyway, Peter picked out Tillie² (Matilda) Hanson.

"She's the nicest girl I've ever seen," he said to himself.

Being an enterprising young man Peter could see that the sensible thing to do was not to rely on such chance meetings in town, but to get a job working for her father. And so he hired out to John Hanson on the Storesund place near Leland. Tillie learned to like Peter, too, and so in 1894 the preacher tied the knot.

Peter and Tillie Egeland took over the operation of the Storesund place. They tilled the land, improved the farm, and made good, so that they were able to buy additional land. At one time they owned 437 acres of rich Illinois land. In 1928 the house burned down but they built a fine, large, modern farmhouse to replace it.

Peter died rather suddenly on April 4, 1941, just 56 years to the day from the time he arrived in Leland. Tillie is still living on the old place and although more than 83 years old, continues to offer the relative or other visitor the same gracious hospitality that is so much a part of her friendly and understanding nature. Always interested and well-informed regarding family relationships and a constant attendant of the family reunion, she has been very helpful in the compilation of the Ikdal Family History.

Tillie had a little brother, Henry Martin, the sixth, and last in the family. He died in infancy when not yet two years old.

¹Peder also had an Uncle in Minnesota at the time.

²Another very common nickname was "Sissy".

Chapter XVII

Merry, Laughing Anna Martha

Jeannette Mather Lord,
Elisdatterdatterdatter

On Aug. 27, 1830, three days after St. Bartholomew's Day, Eli on Aursland gave birth to her youngest child, who was christened Anna Marthe. When she was seven years old a cousin,¹ Ole Hendrickson, from Vatland, a gaard across the fjord, was left an orphan. Eli, his god-mother, welcomed him to Aursland and made him feel that he was part of her family. Two years older than Anna Marthe, Ole devoted himself to her. Many were her stories of the things they did together, skiing, skating, berrying, and caring for the flocks. When the itinerant teacher came to Aursland, he found two pupils, eager to make the most of their opportunity for learning. They were in the same class and competition was keen between them. It was a matter for comment when Ole and Anna Marthe were presented for confirmation in 1842, for he was fourteen and she only twelve.

When Serena and her husband, Ole Nelson, made their plans to emigrate, Serena urged Anna Marthe to accompany them, saying she needed her to help in the care of young Nels, only six months old. Eli's approval was immediately gained. Though Anna Marthe, then eighteen years old, was loath to comply, Eli decided the matter for her. As farvels were being said at the wharf, Ole Hendrickson, her beloved foster brother, brought as a present a Bible, carefully wrapped in a kerchief, with the request that the Bible be "a link between them...a token that neither would ever forget the other." Seven years were to pass before Ole could follow Anna Marthe to America.²

One day soon after the arrival of Anna Marthe with her sister's family at the home of Gamle Meling on Indian Creek, Illinois, Big Tom drove his lumbering conestoga wagon into the yard. To his little sister he suggested that she pack her bag with a few things and come with him for a little trip. Happily she climbed over the wheel and settled herself on the high seat of the big freight wagon, ready for adventures all the more exciting because Tom was a bit secretive. Only when too far on their way for return to be possible, did he confide to her his plan.

Often while driving his freight wagon on regular schedule from Chicago to Ottawa and return for H.C. Armour & Co., he would stop overnight with a Mrs. Ball who kept the tavern in Pavillon. On his last trip, Mrs. Ball had appealed to Tom to find her a girl to help with the work of the tavern. Tom had thought at once of Anna Marthe but fearing opposition from Serena, he had carefully carried through his plan by keeping his real intent from everyone. Tom was head of the family in America and his word was law. After a few hours driving Anna Marthe found herself established as help in this tavern, though she hadn't been in this country long enough to even make a beginning at learning the language. "Eli always blamed Tom for this."

In this community lived Anders Knudson Waethe,³ a Norwegian from Voss, who was a very good friend of Big Tom's. Anders was "manager" of a large farm nearby which a Mrs. Duck from Chicago had inherited from her father, Godfrey Stevenson, and he frequently spent the evening with

¹In both our family and the Watland family, the tradition of relationship persists. Though J.H. Rosdail has discovered nothing to confirm the relationship, I record it for the benefit of future researchers.

²The account of the voyage across the Atlantic is given earlier in the chapter about Serena, Chapter XVI.

³Spelled Vethe by the family in Norway today. Anders came to America in 1844.

Tom in the tavern. Through Tom he met Anna Marthe and soon he was courting her. Anders' brother, Knut, used to say, "All the young men were wooing Anna Marthe but none of the rest of us had a chance, for Anders had a buggy and a smart team while we poor beggars had to walk."

Before the year was past, Anna Marthe was married to Anders Knudson Waethe. On May 29, 1851, Anders drove her in his smart turnout, a buggy and a spirited span of horses, to Ottawa where they were married by A. B. Smith, the Justice of the Peace. The marriage record shows that they were already using American forms of their names. Anders gave his name as Andrew and Anna Marthe had become Anna Martha. Much later Anders wrote his wife's name Martha Ann. This has led to much confusion and argument in our memory as to what was her christened name.

The first year Anders and Anna Martha lived in the old Godfrey Stevenson house. Then in the spring of 1852, Anders having purchased 160 acres just west of the Brown School in Kendall Township, Kendall County, they moved into their own home, soon to be known as Willow Farm.

To her children Anna Martha sang the same lullabies which Eli had sung to her in Gamle Norge, and some of these have come down to us.

Bissam, Bissam, Baadne

Bissam, bissam Baadne,
Gryta haengø i Jødne,
Koka full taa Riumø-graut
Aat de veslø Baadne;
Far'n han sitø o harpa Kødn,
More ho blaesø i vakkert Hødn,
Syste ho sitø o spinnø Gull,
Broren gaar i Skoge,
Jaga øllø villø Dyr.
Ae han kvit, so kjoyr'en hit,
Ae han graa, so let'en gaa
Ae'n brun i Boge,
So lat'en gaa i Skoge.¹

Only a very free translation can be given of this.²

Rock-a-bye, baby [or what you will.]
The pot hangs on the hearth hook,
Full of cream porridge
For the little baby to eat;
Father is sifting the wheat from the chaff,
Mother is blowing on a beautiful horn,
Sister sits and spins gold,
Brother goes to the forest,
To hunt wild animals.
If he sees a white one, he will try to get it
If he sees a gray one, he will let it go
And a brown shouldered one,
He would let go into the wood.

Paal Paa Haugen

Paal sine Høno paa Haugan utslepter,
Hønan sas let over Haugan sprang;
Paal kunne vel paa Hønun fornemma
Raeven va ute mae Rumpa saa lang,
Kluk, kluk, kluk sa' Høna paa Haugom,
Kluk, kluk, kluk, so Høna paa Haugom,
Paal han sprang og vraengde mae Augom,
"No tor', eg inkje komaa hejm aat'n Mor!"³

¹The spelling here was taken from The Norway Music Album, edited by Auber Forestier and Rasmus B. Anderson, 49.

²Transl. by Freda Harold, Baker Lib., Dartmouth Coll., Hanover, N.H.

³Spelling taken from The Norway Music Album, 28.

Paul let his chickens run out on the hillside,
They o'er the hill went tripping along;
Paul understood from the way they were acting,
Reynard was out with his red tail so long.
Cluck, cluck, cluck, the chickens were sighing,
Cluck, cluck, cluck, the chickens were sighing,
Paul was making wry faces and crying;
"Now I'm afraid to go home to Ma-ma."

Ride, Ride, Ranke¹

Ride, ride, ranke.
Hesten heder Blanka,
Hesten er en abel graa,
Sitter liten junker paa.
Hvor skall junker ride?
Til Kong's gaard at frie.
Ingen Anden Hjemme
End to smaa Hunder,
Sitter imot veggen
Knager paa deres Leggen,
Og siger "Bow-ow-ow-ow"
Ut i veiret.

Ride, ride on my knee.
The horse is called Blanche;
The horse is dapple gray,
Ridden by a little prince.
Where shall he ride?
To the King's gaard to propose.
There is no one at home,
Only two small dogs,
Who sit against the wall
And gnaw their bone
And say "Bow-ow-ow-ow"
Out into space.

A Round²

Kjaere aftens sidste timer,
Slaa det arbeid, klokker kimer
Boom, boom, boom, boom.

The beautiful last hours of the af-
ternoon;
Work ceases, the bells in the tower
ring
Boom, boom, boom, boom.

AaKjøre Vatn og Kjøre Ved³

Aa kjøre Vatn og kjøre Ved,
Aa kjøre Tommer over Heia!
Aa kjøre hvem som kjøre vi',
Jeg kjøre Gjenta mig eia.
De røde roses aa de øine blaa,
De vakre Gjenter holler jeg utaa
Helst naar jeg faar den jeg vi'ha,
Saa er dae moresomt at leva.

Carry the water and carry the wood,
Carry the logs over the height!
Carry whomever you wish,
I carry my own maiden.
Red roses and eyes so blue,
The pretty girls I hold true,
When I get her whom I desire
Then it will be amusing to live.

Kjaeringa med Staven⁴

Kjaeringa med Staven,
Hogt opi Hakkedalen,
Otte Potter Rømmei
Fire marker smør,
Saa kjinna Kari,
Ola hadde for,
Kjaeringa med staven.

The little old lady with a staff
High up in Hakkedal,
Eight quarts cream
Four "marker" butter,
So churned Kari,
Ole's wife,
The little old lady with a staff.

It was the same grace Eli had said on Aursland that was taught the children on Willow Farm.⁵

¹"Ride, Ride, Ranke" was also sung in Guner Ingason's family, says his daughter Ida Thorson; but it was a slightly different version.

²This round was always included in the singing around the Christmas tree at Evergreens, home of Ellen Anna Marthasdatter.

³Also sung in Guner's family. Words given me by Ida Thorson.

⁴Ibid.

⁵Guner Ingasondatter was taught this same grace, using the word "spise" in place of "aette". "Aette" is the old usage. "Spise" is commonly used today and is preferred for human beings.

I Jesu navn, gaar vi til bord,	In Jesus' name, we go to the table,
At aette og drikke paa dit ord.	To eat and drink in your name,
Dig til aere, og os til gavn,	You to honor, for our gifts,
Saa faar vi os mat i Jesu navn.	So get we our food in Jesus' name.

Grace was also said after each meal:

I Jesu navn, har vi aet,	In Jesus' name have we eaten,
Av dine gaver har vi met;	From your gifts we have our food;
Dig til aere, os til gavn,	To you thanks for our food
Saa faar vi os mat I Jesu navn.	So we get our food in Jesus' name.

As each rose from the table, he or she turned toward Anna Martha, saying, "Takk for Maten" ("Thanks for the food").

As her children grew older, Anna Martha told them in English the old folk tales and fairy stories, just as Eli would tell them in Norwegian. She mixed together reality and make-believe as if the giants really did live under the hill. The stories of the trolls were caricatures of people they all knew, only on a bigger scale. When a thunder storm came on the prairie she told them of Thor swinging his hammer. In the distant rumbling the children heard his chariot bump over the thank-you-mams, the rocks and boulders of the cloud mountains; and they saw in the lightning the sparks flashing from the hooves of his goats as they struck flint. They heard the clatter of the hooves plainly.

The two giantesses for all I know are still grinding out salt at the bottom of the sea. The storm which Anna Martha survived in crossing the Atlantic was caused by a giant and his wife who lived deep, deep down in the nethermost part of the ocean. They constantly quarreled over a kettle of porridge (grøt). He stirred in one direction and she in the opposite, thus whipping up the ocean into waves so high that no ship was safe.

All elfen maidens eat mushroom seeds. There was a tale of a dwarf whose beard was caught in a tree. In the stories of the Cinderella country boy, called Askelad, boy of the ashes, he always married the most beautiful of all the princesses and won half of the kingdom. Another story was of the dog with five legs. Did you ever see such a dog? He ran on four legs and carried a leg of mutton in his mouth!

Perhaps the most often demanded was Eli's story of the celebration on Erland when her father Guttorm was building the new house to please Mother Maren. There were feasting and dancing and merry-making with all the workmen as well as the family and friends. The workmen put up on the roof a tree, gaily decorated with colored ribbons, as a measure of their appreciation of the generous bonus given them as a reward for their speedy and excellent work in pushing through the building of the frame of the house and getting the roof on.

Many were the stories of warnings of death which had happened to her neighbors and friends and the incidents which were ascribed to the nisse, the fossegrim, or the huldra.¹ In the old days, long long ago, giants had lived on earth, and Eli herself had known persons who had seen stones which were giants turned into rocks when the rising sun struck them just as they were about to overtake a human being they had been pursuing. "Ugly as a troll" was a common expression with her. She told of the four guardian angels on the bed posts who kept the little devils away when one was sleeping; and of the candle that having dropped on the table was burning at both ends. This told the family that death was in the house. Tales of the supernatural were told as if she were seeking the explanation or cause of events known to have happened.

When Anders laughingly told of the old Gulbrandsdal woman who adored all her husband did, no matter how crazy, Anna Martha would reply with the story of the contrary wife, "Kona mot Strømmen", for no one

¹The dwarf on the tun, the spirit in the waterfall, and the hidden mountain people.

should think, not even the children, that all wives in Norway were as pliable as the wife of Gulbrand in Lia. Nor should a wife be as credulous as the one who helped the tramp make a delicious soup from a four inch nail. One gets the impression that Anna Martha was neither quiet nor meekly amenable in her life with Anders, as she had been with her parents.

Pretty, attractive, always laughing, merry, thoughtful of others, are words used to describe Anna Martha when we have found people who remember her. In the North Prairie Church congregation, the tradition that she was "a good Christian" lives on. All talk of her zest for living, her laughing face, and her high spirits.

Knute G., who had been a persistent and unsuccessful suitor, was a frequent visitor in Anna Martha's home after her marriage. One day Anders came in from the barn and in fun reproached her for some alleged neglect of the cattle. In their gaiety and joking, Anders affectionately boxed his wife's ears. A few days later Knute related the episode to the High Prairie and Indian Creek families. Great was their resentment that Anders should strike their youngest and favorite sister. Having the urge to do something about it, they all climbed into the lumber wagon and drove over to Willow Farm, arriving full of wrath. Anders came out to meet them with his usual cordial manner. He was so genuinely glad to see them and so hearty in his welcome as he helped his sisters-in-law down from the high seats over the big wheels, as he showed them into the house and called his wife, that the dour looks faded away and the visit was not marred by untoward incidents or accusations. Long after, the whole story was explained, "to the everlasting amusement of Anders and Anna Martha," said Serena.

Anders was proud of his pretty wife. On all occasions he wanted his wife with him. He bought for her clothes of fine material and wanted them made in the latest style, rivaling the best dressed women of Chicago. Frequent were their trips to that city, driving the fifty miles from their own doorstep to the waterfront. Anders had a passion for music and no concert, lecture, or public event did he want to miss. If Ellen were with them, she considered no trip to Chicago complete unless they lunched with Marshall Field. It was he who introduced her to oysters. Knowing her fondness for them, many a time Mr. Field would put into the buggy on parting a gallon of oysters. The finest treat Anders could bring Mr. Field was a gallon of cider. "There is nothing equal to your cider this side of Conway," he would say.¹

After Fremont's campaign of 1856, when Wentworth and Iver Lawson (Anders' closest friend with whom he had come to America) broke away from the Free-soilers, Anders was in agreement. Though an onlooker and listener, he felt himself a part of the group which, in the conflict to save the Union and abolish slavery, supported the new Republican Party and pushed Lincoln for their first president. He went to each of the Lincoln and Douglas debates. In January, 1860, he received his citizenship papers. That summer he attended the first National Republican Convention, when Lincoln was nominated for president. His first vote in this country was cast for Lincoln. When the Civil War came, he could not serve in the army because of a broken leg which necessitated his walking with a cane. But to Simon Bailey and Fagus Anderson he paid the regular bounty for enlistment and after their return at the end of the war, he established each of them on a farm of his own on Grand Prairie. He encouraged his various hired men to enlist, even though this made the management of the farm very difficult.

To Anders, Lincoln's death came as a great personal loss. He went to Chicago when the funeral train came in and stayed over to join in the long line of 125,000 people who for three days filed past the bier. Later he went to the funeral in Springfield.

Anders "was considered wealthy by the standards of the times as well as one of the able men in the community," writes Albert Watland, who had it from Ole, his father, and from Serena, Anna Martha's sister. His accounts show that he was in charge of roads and building of bridges

¹Conway, Mass., was Marshall Field's birthplace where he had lived until he was seventeen years old.

in his neighborhood. In 1859 before he had obtained his naturalization papers, he was serving on the school board and hiring the teacher for Brown School. He took a strong stand in the struggle against the establishment of parochial schools and preaching in Norwegian in the Lutheran Churches. But when the Norwegian language newspaper, Skandinaven, was established in Chicago, he supported it sincerely as the best means of explaining America to the newly arrived immigrant.

In 1856, Ole Hendrickson came to America and, until his marriage, lived with his foster sister, Serena. In 1859, he came to Willow Farm to build the big two-story house around the bedroom of the original two-room building, leaving the old kitchen as an ell. That summer the frame of the house was put up and the inside work was finished the next winter before Mary, Anna Martha's fourth child, was born. While Ole was at Willow Farm, Eli came to be with her daughter until after her confinement. Ellen, then seven years old, remembered Eli saying to Anna Martha, "He loves you still"; and Anna Martha had replied that if she had realized the strength and faithfulness of his affection she might perhaps never have given her love to Anders. Always there was between Ole and Anna Martha a strong loyal affection and this affectionate regard Ole also gave to Ellen, Anna Martha's oldest child. Some years ago, Ole's son, Albert, wrote that it was unusual but true that this same friendly goodwill still exists between the two families down to the third generation. Today it is true that the friendliness continues between the fourth generations.

Soon after Mary's birth in 1860, Anna Martha, caught in a heavy driving storm while walking to the church on North Prairie, was drenched to the skin and thoroughly chilled. She caught a cold and went into a decline with consumption. Due to this illness, Eli continued to make her home on Willow Farm.

A quiet sadness gathered about them as Anna Martha grew frailer with the passing of the weeks and months. The two women and Ellen, now eleven, clung to each other as they counted off the days, knowing that they were numbered. Ellen was taken more and more into their confidence. Anna Martha shared with this eldest daughter, who was so competently carrying a burden far beyond her years in the care of her younger brother and two sisters, many of her fears and her hopes and her most carefully guarded and cherished secret. To Ellen with instructions to hand it on to her eldest daughter, she gave her precious Norwegian Bible, the farvel present from Ole Hendrickson on the morning she left Aursland only fifteen years before. She told its history which even Anders did not know, saying that in late years she had read it only in his absence, fearing he might destroy it, for Anders had forbidden the speaking and reading of Norwegian in the home. "We are in America now. If we talk Norwegian and keep up Norwegian customs, we might as well have stayed in the old country," said he.

Death came to Anna Martha in 1864. In her Norwegian Bible we find this inscription in Anders' handwriting: "Dis dag August 22nd, '64, my wife died, Martha Ann Knudson, aged 34 years old. A. Knudson."

Scarcely a year and seven days after Anna Martha's death, Anders married Inga Helgisdatter Lid¹ from Voss on August 29, 1865. They had one daughter, Martha Anna.²

Soon after his second marriage, Anders had learned that he too was stricken with consumption. He resolved to plan his life intelligently and according to the best medical advice to live out his days leisurely. Riding about the country he loved with a passion only known to a pioneer who felt that he had had a part in its making, he would get the full enjoyment allotted to him. He died on Jan. 19, 1875. In an editorial in the Yorkville News for March 9, we find this tribute to him: "His truest enduring monument will be the good resulting from his labors in the cause of universal education, in his untiring opposition to superstitious observances and ceremonies incompatible with the spirit and progress of the age, and in his hatred of all forms of political

¹Lid was changed to Lee in America.

²She subsequently married Lewis Munson and had three children, Arthur Lee, Francis Edward, and Harold L.

oppression." He had put what weight he had in the community toward the building of the kind of a world he desired for his children.

The children of Anna Martha Eriksdatter Aursland and Anders Knudson were Ellen, Erik, Sarah Anna, and Mary. Ellen and Erik (Edward) were the first members of their generation of the Aursland branch of the family to be born in America. In 1853, Anders Knudson wrote home to Vethe in Voss, Norway, "I, too, can joyfully announce that I and the family are in good health. Among other things, we have been granted a daughter. She was born to us the third of April. Her name is Eli and she is a great joy to us." Later to be known as Ellen, she was christened Eli Andersdatter by Elling Eielsen Sonve, Anders' friend from Voss, when, traveling on his circuit, he next visited the Norwegian settlement in Illinois.

When Ellen was eight years old, and during the three following years that her mother was confined to her bed, Ellen was trained to care for the children and keep the house just as her mother would have done. When her mother died, the mothering of the smaller children, Eddie, Sarah, and Mary, naturally fell to Ellen. "Little Mother" was an endearing title which was often used by all her søskende. Sarah used it in letters to Ellen right up to her death.

Ellen learned to read from her mother's Norwegian Bible and by her mother and grandmother she was taught to write the Norwegian riksmaal. It was when she went to Brown's School, District No. 38, that the teacher changed her name to Ellen "for one must have an American name." In spite of this the Eli persisted in "Ellie" as a pet name. Her other nicknames were "Nellie", "Wildfire Nell", "Gypsy Nell", and "Beanpole Nell". In school she stood at the top of the class even though she was very irregular in attendance and other pupils, much older, gave her keen competition.

Sarah tells of remembering the spring afternoon when three directors from the Cassem School came to see Anders Knudson. When Ellen, not yet fourteen, returned that day from school, she was told by her father that she was to begin teaching on the first of May. Stephen Ashley, her teacher at Brown School, is quoted as saying, "Ellen Knudson had never gone to school five days in any school week". Yet while she was still thirteen she took and passed the teachers' examination and just after her fourteenth birthday she began to teach in the Cassem School District, No. 33, where a succession of teachers, both men and women, had been driven out by a class of big unruly boys. Ellen mastered the boys and for eight years was a brilliant teacher. She was an eager student who taught herself by often reading books propped above the sink as she washed the family dishes.

After the death of her father, Ellen gave up her teaching career and returned home to take charge of the household and to give her søskende every possible advantage. Ellen arranged for Mary, the only one of Anna Martha's children to have any formal education beyond the Brown School, to attend the Conservatory of Music at Naperville. A square piano was purchased for her. "Every evening we gather...to sing for an hour", said a letter in 1875. Croquet came into fashion. Ellen was asked to the first croquet party in Lisbon when guests were chosen to give croquet prestige, needed to introduce a game which required so much walking and out-of-door exercise by women. Of these days Sarah wrote, "Ellen, do you remember how early we used to get up in the mornings to go to the corn fields to husk corn? We did not have mittens either. You could always husk faster than I. Eddie was not a fast husker either. So he and I made a pretty good team to keep up with you."

Ellen married in 1879 Samuel Mather of Springdale, Iowa, a young Quaker, whose family had come to Iowa from Ohio in 1851. The trek took six weeks. It rained all the time except two days and two nights. They traveled in a conestoga wagon, a Hanna wagon and the family carriage, in which rode Samuel's mother, his sisters and two younger brothers. They brought with them a dog, a mule and cows to furnish milk on the way. Tradition says that Samuel, then four years old, drove the cattle ahead of the caravan most of the way. That autumn on the farm in Springdale, he helped his father set out a hundred evergreen trees on

the slope of the hill running down to the road. Later in the 1880s, the name of "Evergreen Home" was given to the farm by a group of young people, "the big-head class" who, having grown up in Springdale and having finished school, were scattering wherever their careers led. They said that "the memory of that home would be ever green in their lives". It was for these young people that Ellen started the New Year's watch parties.

Lillie Simonds, Samuel's niece, wrote, "Think I was thirteen when your parents married....After Aunt Ellen became an influence in my life I heard more about books, not just biographies of missionaries, George Fox, or William Penn. It was in Aunt Ellen's home that I first saw magazines and began to notice poetry."

Rachel Evans, the first child, was born in 1878. The other children were Edith Louise, Lydia Jeannette, Paul Vethe, Beth, Anders Vethe and Ellen Elvira who died when she was three days old.

Lillian Johnson Rogers wrote: "I think I have never seen anyone else so gentle as your father when he had one of his children in his arms and the rest close to him.... He was more conservative than your mother, less flexible, but very gentle. He seemed to idolize his children." When working in the fields, Samuel wanted a child with him because he loved their company and then "might need an errand done". Every one of the children learned the multiplication tables and mental arithmetic problems in the cow stable while he did the milking.

Of Samuel, Laura Shinn Poland, a cousin, wrote: "I always remember his jokes and the twinkle in his eyes.... He was always teasing my sisters and me. He was always busy and always on hand at meeting with his family."

Springdale was a flourishing Quaker community. It had been a famous station on the Underground Railway and John Brown had trained his men there the winter before his attack on Harpers Ferry. The Friends did not know his plans and never countenanced use of force.

There were adjustments for Ellen to make to the Quaker way of life. The Lutherans made much of ritual, symbolism, music, high position of the minister, the very things the Friends sought to avoid. From Illinois Ellen brought her organ, her music, some pictures and her books. To these she was constantly adding more. Her sheet music, her books and even her black silk dresses were borrowed until they were literally worn out.

For one of the "last day" programs at the school, Ellen trained the children to sing without accompaniment "I'm a little tailor". Each child had a different trade and was to act out his part. But on the last day, the teacher, frightened at what might be the reaction of certain parents, instructed the pupils to recite their parts instead of singing them.

The older young people, Ellen found, had forfeits and kissing games as amusements at their parties. When the next social was held at Evergreens on a warm, summer moonlight night, she and Samuel taught their guests to do the Virginia reel on the lawn. Those who were there have told me that the young people loved it and like Samuel could see no more wrong in the Virginia reel than in competitive gymnastics. Up and down the full length of the eighth of a mile hill did they swing their partners between the rows of evergreens. Afterwards there were adverse comments but the time was ripe for the innovation and wiser minds welcomed the healthier diversion for their young people.

Samuel, always resourceful, believed in efficiency farming. Many are the tales of his hauling wood from the timber with two teams. When hauling grain he would drive one team and lead another, getting the loads to market in double-quick time. If the pressure of time was too great, Paul, not yet big enough to drive a team on the road alone, would follow with a third load, leading a team pulling the fourth. No one needs to comment that this meant well-trained animals, accustomed to obeying Samuel's voice in any emergency.

In the spirit of pioneer hospitality, the Mathers kept open house to all. During a Quaker Yearly Meeting thirty-six guests once spent the night under that roof. The young women, attending the meeting, had come home with Samuel and Ellen. Discovering their whereabouts,

the young men had followed and had begged to be taken in also.

Ellen had a passionate interest in other people, a gift for bringing out their most stimulating qualities instead of their defects, for quietly but resolutely shaking up their opinions and prejudices, for making them seem more unusual and alive. A boy, named Anderson, denied that he had Norwegian ancestry when he first visited Evergreens. Little by little in her conversation, Ellen expressed so much of what her Norwegian background meant to her that presently the boy not only admitted his descent but proclaimed that henceforth he would be proud that he was Norwegian.

It was a common occurrence for Samuel to appear unexpectedly at the home of some unfortunate family with a load of provisions just when help was most needed.

In the days when it often took four hours to drive to Iowa City, the family kept in contact with the University life, attending lectures and concerts and entertaining University people. Frequently came the requests from students and faculty, "May we bring our friends to Evergreens?" Many a time a four-horse carryall drove into the yard unannounced.

Ellen established reading clubs and innumerable social groups for self education. She encouraged and helped young people attending school from the days of her girlhood when she sent money from every pay check she received as a teacher to Luther College at Decorah, Iowa. She found time in all her busy occupations as a farmer's wife to take an extension course in Greek, Latin and English classics, history, geology, economics and other studies, attend summer school, take examinations and receive a diploma at Chatauqua, New York, in 1888. She had the ability to understand the significance of all she read and heard and saw. For forty-five years she worked in the Sunday School of the Friends Meeting and for twenty-five years she was an officer in the state W.C.T.U. She was long a member of the Board of Benedict Home in Des Moines.

When seventy-three years old, Samuel Mather lay slowly dying of erysipelas in the University Hospital in Iowa City. His son-in-law, Stephen H. Bush, wrote: "He rarely spoke...always in sweet gentle tones...never of himself....He understood perfectly that he was dying...this quiet old man suffering...from pain which must have been agonizing, but never making mention of it....I have never forgotten the figure of this quiet old Quaker...in his last illness meeting death in complete quietness."

He died in 1920 but Ellen stayed on at her beloved Evergreens until almost the end of her life. She died at the home of her daughter, Rachel Mather Bush, in Iowa City in 1938. Though sadly broken physically she showed in her last illness "the same gallant spirit which had not forgotten how to laugh and how to love". She was a part of all she had met.

Anna Martha Knudson's second child, a son, was born Mar. 8, 1855, and was named Erik Cornelius after his maternal grandfather. Erik went to school under Ellen's protection, perhaps in 1861. When the teacher asked his name, Ellen answered "Erik". Sharply came the teacher's reply, "I will call you Edward." After this conversation was reported at home, Erik was known as Edward or Eddie.

On July 4, 1864, Edward's father broke his leg when thrown from a buggy in a runaway accident, and never again was he to do active farm work. A month later when his mother died Eddie was nine years old. As there was an acute shortage of farm labor due to the war, Eddie from now on carried his routine of farm chores and farm work. Recognition of this was given when his father made his will in 1869. In this Edward was to receive at his father's death \$100 for each and every year he had "worked on the premises from the year A.D. 1864 up to the time he shall cease to live and work and farm said premises." Fortunately for Edward, the end of the Civil War came in the spring of 1865. Fagus Anderson, after being mustered out in Texas, returned to work on Willow Farm and to take over much of the responsibility and heavy labor beyond Edward's strength and years.

Edward must have been very much like his mother in his quiet merry

ways, laughter and fun. Each of his sisters regarded him as her special pal. Ellen was his "little mother" who taught him many of his duties in the outdoor world as she was needed more and more in the care of the household and of her mother. After Ellen went away to school, Sarah, eleven and a half that spring, worked more in the fields with Eddie. They, like Ellen, loved fine spirited horses and they all became adept in their care and training. Mary was the little sister whom both Ellen and Eddie spoiled. Anna Ingasdatter was the baby to be coddled and loved no matter how much she got in the way.

At school Edward was a good student. He wrote a legible though stiff hand. After leaving school, he continued active in the social life of the community. He loved to dance and like his father he had a clear sweet singing tenor voice. George McHugh, of Yorkville, younger than Eddie, wrote, "I was well acquainted with Eddie Knudson. He and I were both Republicans...and marched with the Wide Awakes whenever there was a political rally [going] to Chicago, Aurora and other places by chartered cars.... Eddie would come to town and engage in the same things I did. We were both inclined to sport, such as baseball." The others never rode him for a fall, as he was thoroughly capable of looking after himself.

When his father died in 1875, Edward had not yet reached his twentieth birthday. It was found, when the will was opened and read, that a codicil had been added in 1872 which changed its provisions in several particulars. The cash recompense, that had been promised to Edward as an incentive to keep him at home after the arrival of his stepmother and especially after Ellen went away to teach, was named as a flat sum of \$500 instead of the \$1300 he would have received when the estate was settled in 1876 if, in lieu of wages, he had been recompensed \$100 a year for each year he had worked "on the premises" since 1864. Inga, the stepmother, in addition to the 80-acre farm near Kankakee, "her bed, sewing machine, castor,¹ one cow, and personal property", was, by the codicil, to be given one pair of horses, one double harness, one plow and one dray. To Anna Ingasdatter, in addition to the 80 acres originally left her, Anders now willed \$300. Other provisions of the will left the home farm of 160 acres to Anna Martha's four children. In addition, Edward was to have a colt. The residue of the estate was to be divided between all heirs.

After Anders' death, Ellen, who was made guardian of her søskende, gave up teaching and came home to take care of the household. When a year had passed Inga married Nels Jager, the hired man, and they, with young Anna, settled on a farm near Plattville. On March 14, 1876, "Edward C. Knudson, bachelor," having reached his majority, became the legal owner of Willow Farm after giving Ellen a mortgage on the 160 acres of land. During these next years, Willow Farm must have been a pleasant place in which to live. It was a household of young people and in the old letters we find frequent mention of house parties, dances, singing at the piano, programs and debates at Brown School, visits to Chicago, Old Settlers' picnics, and Fourth of July celebrations. The Christmas of 1877, the Knudson relatives were invited "as of other years", when "the old house would ring with merriment and laughter". Turkey and plum pudding were planned.

Edward became engaged. Sarah and Ellen married. Mary, having finished her course in music at the Conservatory of Music of the Northwestern College at Naperville, kept house. From the time that Edward had acquired the farm, he had had a series of good crop years and had done well financially, paying off the mortgage and laying some cash aside. But he, too, had consumption. Although in 1878 he was most hopeful of ultimate recovery, by 1882, unable to do farm work, he rented the farm and went to California for his health. Then he tried the climate of Texas. One day in Boerne, after a horseback ride, he sent his colored servant home as he was feeling unusually well. The next morning he was found dead, Nov. 5, 1882.

(End of history contributed by Jeannette Mather Lord)

¹A silver cruet stand to hold condiments.

The third child of Anna Martha Eriksdatter Aursland and Anders Knudson Waethe was Sarah Anna. She married Franklin Christianson Christian, the second of seven children (six boys and one girl) born to Kristen Kristenson from Storvik and Anna Larson Ness from Skinevik.¹ Frank was born on a 160 acre farm about eight miles south of Yorkville and two miles east of the village of Helmar.² The Norwegian church at Helmar was the place of family worship and many of the Christians are buried in the cemetery there. The "son" part of the name was dropped at an early date (about 1883) and the gaardnaven (farm name) likewise fell into disuse.

Frank and Sarah were married on December 31, 1877 by a Methodist minister in the old Knudson home, "Willows Farm". It was a very quiet wedding with only a few relatives present and it was a surprise to most of these. They were simply invited to dinner.

With some help from Frank's father, the newlyweds purchased an 80 acre farm about three miles south (eight miles south of Yorkville) and lived there until Edward Knudson died in 1882. The two oldest children were born on this place. Frank and Sarah then bought out the other heirs and moved to Willows Farm, where the third child was born. After ten years here the family decided to move to Iowa which was a new and promising land at that time. Another important factor was the gradual encroachment of German-speaking families into the school district until finally there was only one other English-speaking family left -- and they were old people. So Frank felt that his children would have a fuller life in a new community. The farm was sold to a German neighbor³ and the Christians went to a farm near Scranton.

Frank Christian was a true farmer with heart and soul in his work. He believed land was the best investment and was always saving his income to invest in another farm. He increased his original holding of 160 acres to 600 acres at the time of his death in 1921. The last 80 was purchased just before the land depression following the war and he paid a huge price, a large part of it as a mortgage. Realizing that he had bid too high, he worried a great deal and this may have had something to do with his death. He loved his farm and was loth to turn it over to his youngest son when the latter approached marriage, yet felt that it was his duty as a parent to do so. He had purchased two lots in the town of Scranton and expected to build a home there. However death claimed him before he had to make the sacrifice of leaving the farm.

He was fond of livestock. A good driving team was indispensable and he liked to be able to beat his neighbors in a race on the roads. Cattle feeding was also a "must" with Frank. He often stood and watched them eat, judging their growth in weight and enjoying their progress. He stressed the value of cattle in keeping the land built up. He liked to read stock journals.

Since he received so much of life's enjoyment at home, Frank did not want to "go gadding around" as he put it. Still when his family did get him to go anywhere he would get started talking and would not be ready to go home when the time came. He always enjoyed having company and although usually quiet, could be quite witty and a tease when the occasion arose. He was a good neighbor and a supporter of community enterprises.

He often enclosed a dollar bill in Sarah's letters, according to the oldest grandson, "with a note to the effect that the bill came off a pig's tail. Now I had seen Canadian pigs but with nary a dollar bill attached to their tails. So it was with great expectation of getting rich that I made my first visit to Iowa in company with my father,

¹Both came to America when quite young, apparently in their "teens", on the same boat -- a sail boat -- in 1847. They were six weeks on the ocean and four weeks to Chicago, part of the way by canal boat drawn by mules. The families settled in the Lisbon Township(?), Kendall County, Norwegian Community.

²This farm eventually passed to Frank's youngest brother Randall, now retitled to Helmar.

³Named Neusus.

mother, and sister -- the first visit I remember. I was five years of age (Mother says) and more gullible about the ease with which one can accumulate dollar bills, than I am now. So the first morning after our arrival, I accompanied my grandfather, Uncle Russell, and the hired man to the corn crib from which the pigs were fed. From a safe distance inside the crib I watched the performance, scanning every pig for a bill on its tail -- but none were visible. I thought it best to say nothing about it but in the afternoon I went out into the pig yard alone to investigate more thoroughly. After one or two experimental tugs at the tails of the less fearful looking piglets, followed by some grunts and growls from the old mothers, I was running howling to the house, fully decided that if there were any dollar bills lurking around their tails, they could keep them.

"The next escapade I got into from which my grandfather rescued me," continues the grandson, "was on the same visit. I had apparently picked up some novel and expressive phrases from the hired man at the barns and was trying it out on Mary, the hired girl, for which I was sent to the attic by my grandmother and mother -- there to do penance, without my supper. The penance was easy at first as the place was full of interesting things and corners to explore. But soon I began to get hungry and the penance was getting more difficult, until my grandfather slipped in on tip-toe with a large glass of milk and even larger piece of cake, and a warning that this was our secret. I don't think it leaked out 'til many years after.

"My grandmother used to give Jean and me a penny for each armful of wood we would carry in from the large woodpile, to an almost equally large wood box in the kitchen. My sister being very "open handed", of course was made Sec-Treas. of the concern. We soon had enough pennies to trade for a dime and on the same day as Grandfather was shipping a load of steers. This was another new and big experience for me. I rode on the load of bedding with my grandfather, behind the steers which were driven herded along by Uncle Russell on his pony Nellie. Of course by the time we got to town, four miles, my or rather our dime, was lost in the load of straw. I watched every forkful being unloaded and then had to confess my loss, which my grandfather made good. The ice cream it bought got a rare good shaking-up and down for they trotted the horses all the way home and with the hard-tired wagons of those days, the 40 lbs. of boy went about three inches off the floor about 60 times a minute."¹

In appearance Frank Christian was a large man -- weighing over 200 pounds, fair in complexion, blue-eyed, and with some curl in his hair. In his later years, as is natural, his physique was not so fine and striking, due to loss of weight, greying hair, and an increasing stoop to his shoulders. Several years before his death he was bothered with stomach trouble but never complained much and refused to consult doctors. He passed away suddenly, probably of acute indigestion. He did his usual chores before breakfast, ate and chatted as usual, and sat down to read his paper, when Sarah noticed that he wasn't feeling well. She managed to get him into bed and although the doctor called twice he died about 2 P.M. His age was 67 years and 1 month. Burial was in Scranton Cemetery.

After Frank's death Sarah built a bungalow in Scranton and lived there for most of her remaining 23 years. She was one of those all-too-few individuals of her generation who have the privilege of seeing the glories of the western mountains and other sections of the country before entering upon the final journey. She spent two winters in California, the first in the company of her sister Mary Mather and her Ikdal cousin, Betsey Anderson. They returned by way of Seattle, Vancouver, and the Canadian Rockies, stopping over at Redvers, southeastern Saskatchewan. Here Sarah remained for the summer with her oldest daughter. She also had a trip through the south one time going down the coast partly by boat and returning through Washington D.C. Then there were several other trips and visits to Saskatchewan, for which she was quite a booster, and a trip to Portage la Prairie, southern Manitoba.

¹John F. Arthur.

This last excursion was after her 87th birthday and was to accompany her oldest daughter home for the winter of 43-44. Although a bit fearful, she stood the trip quite well both ways and was up and about every day of her stay in Canada. One of her travel hopes was to visit Norway but opportunity never came.

"Her love of music," writes a granddaughter,¹ "stands out perhaps most of my childhood memories. She would often sing us hymns, or whistle them, which we tried so hard to imitate. Then 'Making Mud Pies' was a favorite of ours, and hers. How she tried to teach it to me! My lack of music rhythm was a sore spot with her. If I accidentally sang one line of, 'God Sees the Little Sparrow Fall', on tune, we both considered it quite a feat.

"She was very bitter on the repeal of the Temperance Act. Shortly afterward she was traveling with me from Iowa to Saskatchewan for a visit to us, and we had a hard struggle to get breakfast. She didn't want to patronize any place that had a beer sign on it and the big root beer tankards seemed to grace every cafe.

"Her W.C.T.U. principles, her religious ardor, and her generous kindly nature are perhaps the outstanding things we remember of her."

Sarah Anna Christian was of large frame but not stout, and was about 5 feet 7 inches tall. She had brown eyes and brown hair which was long and thick and showed very few grey hairs even after she passed 55. During the last ten years of her life she wore it shingled, because it was so difficult for her to comb and care for.

As to her interests, she liked both reading and being out-of doors. Even as a child she always preferred to help her brother with the chores and out-door work. They were great pals. She was very fond of the beautiful in nature, liked to garden, and especially to grow flowers and shrubs. On the other hand she was a persistent reader and became quite well educated. (She had taught school for a year before marriage) Music was much enjoyed and she frequently sang or whistled about her work. She saw that each of her children (there were four) was given an opportunity for music lessons. She always liked to try new games, except with cards, to which she was opposed. She was very devoted to her church, especially the Sunday School and Missionary Society. Several girls in India and Japan were educated by her.

Sarah was aged 87 years and 7 months at the time of her death. She had several light strokes but recovered fairly well from each. She complained of her head but was still active. Only during the last five days was she unable to speak or take nourishment. She seemed to have no pain and went out quietly. Burial was in Scranton beside Frank.

The youngest of the Knudson children was Mary, nicknamed May, who was born four years after her sister Sarah. Mary attended the Conservatory of Music at the Northwestern College at Naperville, Illinois, and a grand piano was purchased by the family so that she could practice and play at home. She was popular and sometimes young people from Chicago would come out to her home for a house party. When her sisters, Ellen and Sarah married and left Willow Farm, Mary stayed on to keep house for her brother Eddie and to work on her music.

Mary married, on February 13, 1883, Charles Evans Mather, a younger brother of Samuel, Ellen's husband. The marriage took place on Willow Farm on the day Sarah and Frank Christian took it over. Charles Mather's parents came to Iowa in a Connestoga wagon from Ohio when he was but a baby, as mentioned earlier in this chapter.

Charles E. Mather was a partner in the Mather Brothers' General Store at Springdale, Iowa, at least as early as the year 1881. He made semi-annual buying trips to Chicago, doing a great deal of purchasing at Marshall Field & Company, soon to be known as the largest dry goods store in the world. "Uncle Charles' accounts of his business trips were a source of constant wonder," writes a niece. "Through them I pictured Marshall Fields as a storehouse of rare and costly treasure gathered from the far corners of the world. There anything could be found. One had only to procure the money and let Uncle Charles know one's wishes for the article to be in one's possession.

¹Jean C. Arthur.

"A young man in our community ordered a ring for his fiancée through Uncle Charles. Great was the neighborhood excitement when a diamond ring, unwrapped but secured to a mailing tag addressed to Uncle Charles, arrived at the village post office. A few days later Uncle Charles returned from Chicago with this explanation: He had learned in Marshall Fields that this was the safest way for a diamond ring to travel from Chicago to Springdale, much safer than being carried on his person, for he might be robbed and the thief never found. Each mail clerk who handled that ring would remember it as he passed it on to the next clerk. The exact minute of its disappearance would be known. The ring as mailed was safer, he said, than if wrapped and mailed under red seals in registered mail."

Mary and Charles Mather had five children, all boys.

Charles died in 1917 at the age of 67. Mary lived until 1936.

CHAPTER XVIII

In which we follow the multifarious peregrinations of the Madison family

Osmund Guttormson Meling and his family, whom we left well established in the Fox River Settlement back in Chapter IV, soon adopted the name of Thomasson or Thomason. This was more or less logical since the American interpretation of "Guttorm" was "Thomas" for some reason or other, and thus Osmund was Thomas's son or Thomason. There is definite evidence that the spelling with two "s's" was retained until about 1870, at least by one of the children. However among the Norwegians Osmund was always referred to as Osmund Meling and later as "Gamle Meling".

Osmund and Bertha had one more child, the 9th, after arriving in America. It was a boy and they named him Mattias, the 4th of their children to bear that name and the only one of the four to reach maturity. He was born when Bertha was 47 years old.

In his later years Osmund Meling was referred to as a large noble-looking man who was always reading the Bible. He was baptized three times: once as a child in Norway into the Lutheran faith, once as proxy for the baby Mattias he lost in the Fox River Settlement shortly after their arrival in America, and once in June of 1860 into the Reorganized Church of Latter Day Saints. "Grandfather was a peculiar man", writes a granddaughter. "He would never have his picture taken, saying that no one should look on his face after he was dead and gone. But Uncle Osmund once got grandmother to sit for hers."¹ "Grandfather was also a quick-tempered man, and would shout at his hired men and girls, and his own children, and would not hesitate to punish or threaten them if they lagged at their work. He used to sit in the barn doorway so he could watch them." Osmund was also very strict in his business dealings.

Osmund finally sold his farm and moved the house to his daughter Ann Danielson's place nearby. Here he died in 1876 at the age of 88.² For his exact age we are indebted to his nephew Gunder Olson Sevig. Osmund had lost track of his date of birth and so Gunder offered to write back to Norway for it. He asked the school-teacher in Skjold to look in the church "dagsbook" where the baptisms, deaths, and marriages are recorded. The custom was to baptize one week after birth so when the record came they figured out the day of birth.

It was probably for Osmund's funeral that the train bearing many relatives was stopped at the Meling farm instead of the regular station. The conductor explained that the Melings had always been good to the railroad.

After Osmund's death Bertha spent the remaining seven years of her life with her children; Ann and Osmund. She walked with a cane but was able to get around pretty spry for an elderly woman. She died on the Danielson farm at the age of 89.

In Baker Cemetery a tall, pyramidal, well-inscribed stone bears witness to the final resting place of Osmund and Bertha Meling, who pioneered the coming of the Ikdal Family to America.

The oldest of the Meling children, most of whom were rather tall and slender, was Maren, or Mary Thomason. When working in Ottawa one year she met and married Maas Maasson Ege (pronounced Ay'chee)³. Maas was the youngest of four boys born to Maas and Anna Ege. He was younger than his nearest brother by eight years and was the only one in the

¹The original was given to Sarah Flinders of Sierra Madre, California. One copy is owned by the Ann Danielson descendants and one is in the possession of Jeannette Mather Lord.

²Funeral service conducted by Rev. H. A. Stebbins.

³It is not known just where this farm was located. Rygh gives only one Ege or Egge in either Søndre Bergenhus Amt. or Stavanger Amt. and we know that Ikdals coming from it (Egge) pronounced the name "Eg gē". Yet Maas' youngest daughter visited the place and there is no mention in tradition that it is located in a different part of Norway.

family to come to America.¹ He came in the year 1839 -- the first important immigration year to follow the 1836-37 exodus and hence a year of unusual interest historically. It is much to be regretted that we have no knowledge whether Maas came with the Nattestad or Luraas parties or one of the smaller groups, or whether he came by way of Göteborg, or how. If we could locate Ege (Ay'chee) we might hazard a guess.

In Illinois Maas soon came to be known as Mads Madison instead of Maas Maasson probably because the peculiar twist of the "a" in "Maas" was too difficult for an American tongue to master, and the natural tendency would be to spell Madson as "Madison". His marriage to Mary Thomason is the first marriage of the Ikdal family in America. According to the La Salle County marriage records² "Maddis Madison and Mary Miller" were married Sept. 15, 1840 by Wm. L. Dunavan, J.P. Why the name is "Miller" is uncertain unless the writer or recorder was thinking of Miller Township at the time. At any rate the marriage certificate reads "Mary Thomason". Not only was the Madison-Thomason alliance the first in our family but it was also the most migratory. Mads could stay just so long in one place before getting an unrestrainable urge to sell out and move elsewhere. It is said that Mary signed no less than 22 deeds during the thirty years of her active married life -- an average of one deed every 16 months. This involved traveling about by wagon through four states. In addition Mary gave birth to eight children -- an average of one every two years -- and succeeded in raising six of them. We nominate Mary Madison for an "up front" position in the pioneer women's Hall of Honor. Will you second it?

After marriage Mads and Mary lived with Osmund Meling's for awhile. The next year they bought the adjoining farm, which may have been what was subsequently the Storesund place as we are told from another source that "Mads Madison squatted on the old Storesund place and sold the buildings to Ole and Sarah Storesund". The next year they sold and bought another farm. But another account of the Madisons says, "After father and mother were married they lived at Dayton, Illinois, a little town where there was spinning and weaving of blankets". The implication is that the speaker, Anna McFadden³, the oldest child, was born here thirteen months after her parents' marriage. She continues by saying that the second child "was born a year and a half after I was. It was in La Salle County but it was not called 'Mission' then; it was called 'School Section'.⁴ I think she was born on Sarah Storesund's place⁵, around in that locality." It thus becomes obvious that we cannot trace all the moves of the Madisons in their chronological order.

Sometime after the birth of the second child Mads had a serious attack of fever. Mary had a relapse about the same time and they were both so ill they couldn't hand each other a drink of water. Mads shaved off his whiskers after this illness.

"My brother Martin", continues Anna, "was born in what we called the board house, a house made of boards instead of logs. I've heard mother tell about the awful hot weather that came that year and how father took a notion to thrash shortly after Martin was born. Mother had a woman come to help; but mother was still not strong after her confinement, and she took a cold after getting overheated in cooking for the threshers. I remember how she called us in from the outdoors

¹However a niece and nephew, children of his brother Jacob, came to America. The niece was a widow with four or five children, and lived near Leland. She inherited \$17,000 from the nephew, Isaac, who bought land in the Leland vicinity when he first came over and improved it until it became very valuable, but who never married. When he first came over Isaac stayed with the Madisons and Mary cooked and washed and mended for him for a long time.

²La Salle County Marriages, on record in Court House at Ottawa, Ill., from June 22, 1831, to July 19, 1851, Illini Chap., D.A.R., Ottawa, Ill.

³Quoted from Mary Audentia Smith Anderson, op.cit., 627 ff.

⁴"School Section".

⁵If Mads sold the buildings to Ole and Sarah Storesund as stated before does this mean the place was vacant from the time the Madisons left until 1849 or thereafter when the Storesunds arrived?

because of the heat that summer [1845] Then mother's 4th baby was born there, named Mary Ann. She lived but a short time. Then another Mary Ann was born and died and that made two funerals in the house in one year. Then we moved about two miles away from there, near Leland. There Osmund was born 24th of April 1851. We didn't live there very long, probably two or three years,"

The Madisons next moved northward through Wisconsin to a point in Eau Claire County about 75 miles east of Minneapolis. This trip was about 325 miles in length and was driven in a wagon¹. Their farm in Wisconsin was situated in what later became the center of the city of Eau Claire² with a population of 26,000 people. But fate and Mads restlessness made them sell and move to Minnesota.

In Minnesota they lived in Fillmore County in the southeastern section of the state. "Father had land which, if he had hung on to, would have made him very wealthy", continues Ann McFadden³. "But he was of a roaming disposition and when he would stay in one place about so long, he just must move! At different times in his life he owned land upon which towns were built afterwards. While we were living in Minnesota, Uncle Thomas and Uncle Osmund [Thomason] came up to visit father and mother and to see what they thought of the country. They took Bertha [the second child] back home with them and she stayed with them about a year going to school. Mother often said she didn't have an easy moment after she let Bertha go back to Illinois for thinking of the girl so far from home. So after about a year more father and mother went back to Illinois for a four or five weeks visit, and then brought Bertha back with them to the Minnesota home. Father had lots and lots of land in Minnesota, about 600 acres or more, but he got restless and traded it all for a forty acre piece back in Illinois.

"I was about 16 years old when we moved back to Leland -- about two miles south this time. Father stayed in Leland between two and three years and then [traded] his equity to some shyster in Waterloo, Iowa, for 160 acres but the man wouldn't make the trade unless father would buy another piece of land he wanted to get rid of. In this way father got in debt and couldn't get out and finally lost it all.

"They did not live in Waterloo very long. They moved from place to place in Iowa. I couldn't tell you of their movements They even went back up in Minnesota again where [father] could see all that nice land he once owned. That made him feel pretty bad. There was one thing about all this though. Mother never asked him to move or try some other places, it was always his doing They traveled around until they were about destitute and finally came back to 'Mission', as it was then called, in Illinois. They lived in our old log house and rented our farm when they came back and then after a while they got a piece of land near Sampsons'. In a short time they traded that and bought some near Grandfather Thomason's at Leland. It was called 'Indian Creek'. It would be hard work to tell exactly all the moves father made. He seemed always going to make money, just ahead."

This latter farm belonged to Chris Danielson⁴ as Ann McFadden says elsewhere that Mary did not want Mads to buy land near the Melings as " Grandfather was always kind of disagreeable and hard to get along with; but Uncle Chris wanted to dispose of it and so father bought."

"When father moved back near us he got acquainted with the Hayers and other church people [sometimes called "Mormons"]. He became very intimate with them and began going to church with them. I thought that was awful for mother had been very prejudiced. Years before that, a little while before Martin was born, she had been baptized but something was said to her that turned her against the Church. This was in

¹Of course there is a possibility that they lived for a short time at some place enroute.

²There is no reason to doubt this. Eau Claire was first settled in 1847 and not incorporated until 1872.

³Quoted from Mary Audentia Smith Anderson, Ibid.

⁴There is also a possibility that this was the one purchased when they came back from Minnesota the first time.

1845, about a year after Joseph the Martyr was killed, and the Church was in great commotion. Father was in with anyone though that was a Latter Day Saint and he listened for a time to some of the would-be leaders, first, Strang, and then William B. Smith. But he was not satisfied with them and had been away from the Church for some years. So now when he heard from the Hayers and others about the Reorganization, he was baptized in 1864."

Records in the Church Recorder's Office at Independence, Missouri, according to M.A.S. Anderson, show that Mads Madison "was baptized at Mission, LaSalle Co., Ill., 4 Sept. 1864, by Yance Jacobs, and confirmed by Elders Y. Jacobs and Lightfoot. He was ordained an elder 4 Sept. 1864 by Zenos H. Gurley¹ and Yance Jacobs".

Ann McFadden continues:

"Bertha [the second child] was in Waterloo, Iowa [where she stayed to go to school while the Madisons were moving about Iowa] and I wrote to her about father's joining the Mormons and told her how badly I felt. She told the woman she was living with about it and the woman said, 'Tell her not to feel so badly about that; there are lots of good people belong. My own folks are Latter Day Saints and I know quite a lot about them'.

"But mother was so prejudiced at what she had heard about some of the leaders going out West and teaching polygamy that she never got over it, and while father was active a good many years as elder in the Reorganization, mother never joined, even after Bertha married Joseph [Smith], the President of the Church, and mother loved and respected him."

About 1870 Mads and Mary Madison moved to Plano, Kendall County, Illinois. Mads was received into the Plano branch of the Church by letter on 10 Feb. 1870². He worked in the railroad shops there. In their later years they moved to Lamoni, Iowa, to be with their daughter Bertha Smith. Referring to this period, M.A.S. Anderson writes as follows:

"I remember my grandfather Madison as a very kindly, gentle man, tall and erect, and very soldierly in bearing. He wore a full beard, was an expert carpenter or cabinet maker, and liked to be busy. After coming to mother he made beautiful bird houses, which he sometimes sold, and tinkered about a good deal. Made some lovely doll furniture for my first daughters and others -- a bedstead and dresser made of black walnut, and very beautifully finished, even to a swinging oval mirror, salvaged from a hand mirror. He had, like most immigrants, been addicted to drink in his younger days, but after association with the church, he forsook all that habit, and was more actively engaged in preaching and in doing what he could to explain the 'Restored Gospel' to his fellow countrymen."

"Father was always very liberal", said Ann McFadden, "- much too liberal for his own advantage."

Mads lived 10 years beyond his "three-score and ten" which is not surprising as he came from a long-lived family. Although his father met death by an accident and Mads' oldest brother Hans only lived to be 65, the second brother Jacob lived to be 95, the third, Oden lived to 100 years, and their mother was said to be more than 100 years when she died.³ Mads died at Lamoni at the home of his son-in-law, President Joseph Smith, and was buried in Rose Hill Cemetery.

Mary Madison lived five years longer than her husband but spent the closing years of her life (eight or ten) in blindness due to cataracts. While they were still living in Plano she had several operations on her eyes performed by good doctors in Chicago. When these were unsuccessful and she could no longer do her housework they moved to Lamoni as we have mentioned. She died at the home of her daughter Ann at Lushton, Nebraska, and was buried at a near-by cemetery.

"I recall one thing about grandmother", writes Audentia Anderson, "Like all of her countrywomen she was an excellent housekeeper. Once

¹"Zenos H. Gurley was high in church authority" -- M.A.S. Anderson.

²According to the before-mentioned church records.

³"She was bedridden for years, and very childish. She would cut holes in her bedding and then lie there and darn them up again." -- Ann McFadden in M.A.S. Anderson, loc.cit.

when they were about to paint the kitchen floor, someone suggested a sort of drab or darkish gray color, saying it would not show the dust and dirt easily. Quite indignantly grandmother replied that surely was not what she would want; she would want a color that would show the dust so she could get it off!

CHAPTER XIX

The Church Question

Now the children of Maren Osmundsdatter Erland (Meling) (Thomason) and Maas Maason Ege -- or more commonly, Mary and Mads Madison -- were Anna, Bertha, Martin, Mary Ann (deceased in infancy), a second Mary Ann (also deceased in infancy), Osmund, Mary Amelia, and Josephine Louise.

Anna, or Ann, the oldest, has already been introduced in the role of narrator for much of the story of her parents' lives. When she was nearly 18 she married Andrew Christian and went to Ottawa to live. When her son was "quite a boy" the family moved to School Section. Ann and Andrew secured a divorce and after many years she married Seth Woodward at Fairmount, southeastern Nebraska. From 1894 until at least 1898 they were living at the nearby town of Lushton. Then she divorced again and after a few years moved to California. In 1904 she married Capt. John G. McFadden at Los Angeles.

John McFadden was born in Tuscarawas County, eastern Ohio. His first marriage was at Peoria, Illinois, to Mahala Brown by whom he had several children. He was a soldier in the Civil War, Company A, 42nd regiment Illinois Volunteer Infantry. He enlisted the 9th of August 1861 as 1st Sargeant, was promoted to 2nd Lieutenant Nov. 2, 1862, to 1st Lieutenant May 11th, 1863, and to Captain Aug. 20, 1864. He participated in over 25 battles, some of which were sieges lasting many days. He was mustered out March 9, 1865 at Huntsville, Alabama.

Captain McFadden lived eight years after his marriage to Ann and died at the age of 81. She lived to the same age, passing away eleven years later at the home of her niece, Mary Audentia Smith Anderson, in Omaha, Nebraska.

Bertha, the 2nd of the Madison children, married Joseph Smith III, son of Joseph Smith II, the Martyr, founder of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, and of Emma Hale, his wife. To understand the life of Joseph Smith III and his wife, Bertha, and to understand the church controversies which frequently occupied the thoughts of a large number of our forefathers, it is important to consider the early history of the Church.

Joseph Smith II, born 1805, son of Joseph Smith I and his wife Lucy Mack, was the founder and first prophet of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints which had its origin April 6, 1830 at Fayette, Seneca County, New York. By the gift of Divine revelation he was enabled to give to the world The Book of Mormon, which, with the Bible and the book of Doctrine and Covenants, is the foundation for the religious beliefs of the Church. The Church moved from New York to Kirtland, Ohio, and from thence to Missouri. Its members were opposed to slavery while the Missourians wanted to keep their slaves and objected to the Church acquisition of property. These differences created friction and finally persecution to such an extent that the Saints were ordered out of the State. Six-year-old Joseph Smith III was one of

these who fled across the ice of the Mississippi River¹ to a sanctuary in Illinois.

The persecuted people settled in near by Nauvoo, Illinois, a state where they were hospitably received and even wooed by both political parties -- the Whigs and the Democrats -- who wanted their votes. The Church acquired a special kind of charter under which they could make and enforce their own laws and this charter was given to them by the unanimous vote of the State legislature, composed of both political parties. However the people of Hancock County came to believe that the Saints wanted to overthrow the Government and drive everybody out of the county but themselves. The political winds also veered and both Whigs and Democrats turned against the Church to the extent that the President, Joseph Smith, his brother Hyrum, John Taylor, and Willard Richards, were confined in the jail at Carthage, Illinois on the conspiracy charges just mentioned.

Although under the avowed protection of Thomas Ford, the Governor of the State of Illinois, a masked mob broke through the cordon of soldiers surrounding the jail and murdered Joseph Smith and his brother Hyrum and injured the two friends. This unfortunate event occurred on the late afternoon of June 27, 1844. It was later discovered that the soldiers' guns had been loaded with blanks and that they were in sympathy with the mob.

The Church was thus left without a leader. Of many aspirants for leadership, Brigham Young gained the most adherents, and led his associates westward in 1846 to Utah, where they founded Salt Lake City. Among the departures from the original faith of the Church, the most radical was that of celestial marriage and polygamy. This dogma was first presented Aug. 29, 1852 at a special conference in Salt Lake City. "In order to put the responsibility of this doctrine back on Joseph Smith, this document bore date of July 12, 1843, over nine years before its first publication"². Proof that he was implicated in any way has never been found. He had issue by only one wife, who never had occasion to doubt his marital faithfulness. Only two years before his murder he wrote an epitome of faith published in the "Chicago Democrat", which included the statement:

"We believe ... that the law of God provides but one companion in wedlock ..."

and which cited an excerpt from the Book of Mormon commanding that a man should have but one wife.

The same year that polygamy was introduced in Utah (1852), a movement for reorganization back in the Middle West was started by those opposed to such innovations. This movement culminated in 1860 with the choosing of Joseph Smith III, 4th child, but oldest living son, of the deceased prophet, as President of the Reorganized Church.

The Reorganized Church never endorsed or permitted polygamy and consistently through the years fought the pernicious doctrine. always repudiating the claim made by Brigham Young that it was given by Joseph Smith -- a statement that he, Young, was never able to prove.² Controversies between the Utah Church and the Reorganized Church led into the courts where it was ruled that the latter was the "true and lawful continuation of, and successor to the said original Church ... organized in 1830."

Although there was thus a real difference between the two Churches, the popular mind did not always trouble to make the distinction because polygamy was, of course, the choicest kind of gossip material.³ Even thinking people hesitated about speaking well of the Reorganized Church or joining it because of the fear that the common origin with the Utah Church would impute polygamous tendencies to the Reorganized group. We have seen ample evidence of these things in speaking of the Madison

¹Part of a hymn sung by the Mormons during their flight contained these words: "Missouri, in its fury, without a judge or jury, drove the Saints and spilled their blood".

²M.A.S. Anderson.

³Even today it is occasionally used by sensation writers to make a good story.

family earlier in the chapter and of Ellen Erickson in Chapters II and XIII. Our family traditions are sprinkled with other references to the problem, e.g.:

"School Section was all wild prairie. There were herds of cattle with herders. When they were to elect presidents they'd run up flags on liberty poles. There were no churches and two Mormons came in. They didn't practice polygamy but people talked about 'em in a very bad fashion. However people were very glad to go to services and built up the churches. Gamle Meling became Mormon through these two men who got things started."

"I was brought up on all of those stories of the split-off from Young's Mormons. Mormon cousins visiting at Evergreens were always curious objects to us children in spite of mother's careful explanations that this branch weren't bigamist and were just like other people."¹

Joseph Smith III studied law in his young manhood. In 1858 he became Justice of the Peace in Hancock County and a member of the Board of Education. In 1860, as we have seen, he took his place at the head of the Reorganized Church of Latter Day Saints and became its "President, prophet, seer, and revelator". In 1865 he resigned his Hancock County positions and went to Plano, Illinois, where he edited "The True Latter Day Saints Herald", the official publication of the church.

"In all movements of uplift and welfare, he was extremely active, especially so in the temperance cause. ... His lectures and writings on these subjects were in great demand, and wherever he lived, and his church people were numerous enough to control public affairs, the saloons were banished."

"He made the public statement that he felt himself particularly called upon to preach and teach against the doctrine of polygamy which doctrine had been introduced into the Church eight years after his father's death and responsibility for which had been laid at his father's door. Most carefully and conscientiously he examined every book or treatise which came to his notice, which was written with an attempt to thus fasten such responsibility upon his father, but he often stated that he had failed to find any proof of such a claim, and, instead, had found much of error and falsehood. 'But', he would add, 'that is neither here nor there! If he did it, he was wrong; -- it is wrong in the sight of God and against the teachings of the standard books of the Church."

Joseph Smith III and his fellow churchmen were deeply interested in the introduction into Congress of such legislation as resulted in the abatement of the evil [of polygamy] in Utah, and assisted materially in obtaining its passage."²

His first wife, Emmeline Griswold, died young and in 1869, he married Bertha Madison, who had been taking care of his family.³ The ceremony took place in the home of Bishop Israel A. Rogers at Sandwich, Illinois, "Shortly after this a good brother ventured to suggest to Brother Joseph that he had made a mistake in choosing a wife from such a humble walk of life and of that nationality. He replied, "I have chosen my wife for myself and not for the church, and I should think if I am satisfied the church ought to be."⁴

"Sunday was always 'open house' at the Smith home. The long dining table had to be lengthened, for besides the family there were the boarders and the casual extras. Very often the children had to experience that interminable 'wait for the second table'. They wondered why the grown-ups couldn't hurry a bit with their yarns, recollections, and discussions. When we consider the amount of physical labor required to prepare food for so many people, often three times a day, we can appreciate the cheerful toil and unfailing industry of the faithful

¹Jeannette Mather Lord.

²Three preceding paragraphs quoted by permission from M.A.S.Anderson, op.cit., 568.

³She had previously been engaged to a distant relative on her mother's side.(M.A.S.Anderson, op.cit.,634) Now who might that be?

⁴The Gospel Quarterly Series, Vol.35, No.2, "These Remind Us that Personality is Sacred", Herald Publishing House, Independence, Missouri, 1947; p.13.

Mother Bertha."¹

Late one afternoon when Joseph and Bertha first moved to Liberty Hall, a storm came up. "During the night [it] burst with great fury. Bertha had put out barrels and tubs to catch the much-desired soft rain water, and she would venture out occasionally to change receptacles. She awakened the oldest girl, Audentia, saying, "Come, Audie, I just want you to see this water!" They stood at the door and watched, fascinated at the force and volume of the streaming water. Lightning cut its way constantly through the clouds, and the thunder roared and crashed about their ears. The mother was drenched from her frequent sallies out to the tubs, but she just laughed because of the pure joy which the experience had awakened in her. Her love for nature and her early contacts with its primitive and varied expression deprived her of the emotion of fear at any of its manifestations; instead, it had established a firm assurance of its divine beneficence. In some measure she was able to teach each of her children to enjoy that same feeling, for wind, rain, snow, and hail, and sun ever held delight for them."²

"It is unfortunate that Bertha did not have the advantage of acquiring a good education in her youth. She possessed a keen intellect and used every opportunity that came to her to develop it. Joseph helped her, especially in the use of the English language. Early in their acquaintance she had asked him to correct errors she might make in pronunciation, grammar, or construction. It was seldom necessary to correct her more than once, for she would keep thinking of it until it was fixed permanently in her mind. After attending a sermon or lecture she would return home and be able to give a remarkably complete resumé of it, outlining each consecutive point and giving the scriptural passages which had been quoted. Many people expressed their admiration for the superior mental qualities which this evidenced. The eagerness and rapidity with which she assimilated knowledge from many sources helped her to develop a most interesting and unusual character."³

Bertha Madison "was a woman of sterling qualities of mind and heart and the possessor of a strong personality which won for her many devoted friends. She had a sturdy, healthy body which stood her in good stead through the years of labor and toil involved in rearing a large family [she had nine children] in a pioneer and rural locality. The home she helped her husband plan and build a mile west of the little prairie town of Lamoni, [southern] Iowa, and to which they moved in October, 1881, was named by its happy possessors, Liberty Hall, and its doors were ever open to friends, passers-by, admirers, the indigent, the curious, or the casual caller. Its simple but boundless hospitality was known far and near, and from its hearth there ever radiated a wholesome and happy friendliness and welcome, generously shared.

"Seldom was there a time when some aged and friendless person did not find there a home, rounding out life's span in the genial environment of Liberty Hall. Beneath its broad roof children were born and died, young folks joyfully married, and tired age found respite, sooner or later to be carried gently to their long rest. What tales its walls could tell of those busy, happy years, now so far away!"⁴

One of the best tributes that can be paid to Bertha Madison is that she was the inspiration for the following poem composed by her husband. This poem written 16 years after their marriage, is at the same time a tribute to Joseph. Not very many men bestow an equal amount of time and thought upon their wives even after one year of marriage. Again quoting from M.A.S. Anderson:⁵

"Bertha:

'Tis sixteen years today Good Wife,
This bright and chill, November,
Since we in bonds began our life,
And I as husband, you as wife,
Pledged each the other in time's strife;
Oh! That I still remember.

¹Ibid, 14. ²Ibid.

³The Gospel Quarterly Series, loc.cit., 15.

⁴Ibid., 573.

"And hand in hand we've held our way
Through fair and stormy weather,
'Mid skies of blue or skies of gray,
In stint of toil or need of play
We've been to each a staff and stay,
In joy and grief, -- together.

"When after days of peace and pain
You bore the title 'Mother',
We journeyed on, o'er hill and plain,
In winter's snow or summer's rain,
Nor deemed our care or labor vain,
Our love, each for the other.

"We've laid some dear ones down to rest
Beneath the hillside grasses
And tried in faith, to think it best
That human heart ties thus be wrest,
That they in Heaven might be blest,
When time's tomorrow passes.

"And as the years have waxed or waned,
Our lives in being blended,
We have life's treasures earned and gained,
By joys been pleased, by sorrows pained,
And thankful been for grace obtained
When each sad grief-time ended.

"Thus Bertha dear, I call to mind
That day in chill November,
We made the vows whose ties still bind
The bonds made sweet by love entwined,
As at the first, by God designed,-
And trust you still remember!
Yours ever,
Joseph Smith."

"Bertha (Madison) Smith passed from earth life on 19 October 1896, six weeks after being severely injured by being thrown from a carriage in a runaway accident. Her body was laid to rest in beautiful Rose Hill, the silent city which overlooks the broad acres of Liberty Hall farm. She is but a memory now to the sons and daughters who owe, more than they can realize, perhaps, their splendid heritage of health and serenity to the wholesome sweetness and poise of her life and character."¹

After Bertha's death Joseph Smith married again, this time to Ada Rachel Clark. In 1905 he moved from Lamoni to Independence, Missouri, headquarters of the Church lying not far east from Kansas City. He continued as President of the Church until his death Dec. 10, 1914. During the entire 54 years of his presidency, "he retained the universal love and confidence of the people, and though he was annually sustained by a vote of conference, there was never a negative vote".

Among the memorials written of President Smith following his death was the following editorial in the Kansas City Journal for December 12, 1914.²

"IN THE ECCLESIASTICAL DOGMAS which made up the denominational belief of the late Joseph Smith the general public has no particular interest. But in the death of the late venerable head of the Reorganized Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints the country loses an interesting and useful citizen. Joseph Smith was considerably more than a powerful churchman, into whose keeping had been committed the destinies of one of the great denominations of the world.

¹Ibid., 570 ff.

²Quoted in M.A.S. Anderson, op.cit., 648. His Memoirs were edited and arranged by M.A.S. Anderson and published serially in The Saints Herald, the weekly church publication, from Nov. 6, 1934 to July 31, 1937.

"Those who ignorantly confounded the Reformed Church with Mormonism, in the objectionable acceptation of that term, will not appreciate the theological distinctions between the two, nor understand that nothing was more hateful to Joseph Smith than the doctrines of Brigham Young, with their polygamous teachings which make Utah Mormonism obnoxious in the eyes of the average American.

"But all who ever came in contact with Joseph Smith could readily appreciate the broad charity of his tenets, the untarnished private life he lived, the unswerving devotion to his duty which he always displayed, and the simple modesty of his relations toward his church and the world at large. To his church he was the Prophet whom all its communicants revered, but he was also the unostentatious leader who constantly practiced the virtues which he enjoined upon his followers. To the world he was the blameless citizen who walked before all men as an example, and whose interests in the movements that made for the welfare of the community always had his heartiest support.

"Perhaps nothing could give a clearer insight into the character of Joseph Smith than the directions which he issued shortly before his death in respect to his funeral. Disliking nothing so much, next to sham, as ostentation, he directed that his funeral should be conducted with the utmost simplicity, without any of the elaborateness which his followers would otherwise have provided in order to testify to the honor in which they held him. He was the President, but first of all he was the Christian gentleman and the good citizen. As such he lived: As such he died; as such he will be remembered by all outside the household of his faith. His followers themselves can have no legacy of remembrance more honorable than the appraisalment of the people among whom he lived and labored so many years.

"Kindly, cheerful, loyal to his own creed, tolerant of those of others, standing for modesty, simplicity, good citizenship, embodying in his private and public life all the virtues which adorn a character worthy of emulation -- such is the revelation which Joseph Smith leaves to the world, as the real interpretation of an ecclesiastical message translated into terms of human character."

President Smith composed several hymns for the church. The following is half of the first stanza of one of the favorites:

"Tenderly, tenderly, lead Thou me on
On o'er the way that my Savior hath gone;
Bright on His pathway the sunlight hath shone;
Tenderly, tenderly, lead Thou me on."

*** **

Maas Maason Ege(Mads Madison) and Maren Osmundsdatter Erland(Meling) (Mary Thomason) had six more children after Bertha Smith. Martin, the first, married Ellen Waalem (Danielson)¹ and they both lived and died in the Los Angeles, California, area. Mary Ann, the next, deceased in infancy, as did also the second Mary Ann who followed her. The sixth in the family was Osmund, a carpenter, who married Alice Baxter at Lamoni, Iowa. He died in 1907 and she in 1928. The seventh was Mary Amelia who was married at Plano, Illinois, by President Smith to Hosea Kenyon. She died in childbirth when only 28 years old.

The eighth and youngest of the Madisons was Josephine Louise. She became a successful corset saleswoman in an early day, and later a milliner in Kearney, Nebraska. She never married. About 1904-06 she made two trips to Europe as she was a sufferer from diabetes and wanted to drink the famed spring waters at Carlsbad, Germany. On her trip in 1904 she went on up into Norway to visit the former homes of her grandparents, Osmund Meling and Bertha Sorvaag. We have mentioned her discoveries in Chapter II. She brought back a picture of the church they attended on Talgo.²

¹Related to Knud Danielson Waalem of Chapter XXII ?

²Also a picture of the church attended by the Sorvaags. Same church? See also Chapter XXII.

"Josie" also visited the farm Ege(Ache) where her father was born. She reported that the house had been set back and a new one built where the old one used to stand. She also saw the church where the members of the family were baptized.¹

Josephine died in the home of her cousins, the Andrew Gaards, at Sheridan, Illinois. She was 50 years old.

CHAPTER XX

Wherein we speak of hunting for three of the Thomason Species
(Genus Meling, Family Musland, Order Ikdal) -- but don't quite
get them into the corral

The second child and the oldest son born to Osmund Guttormson Meling was Erik, who grew to be tall in stature and fair of complexion. Although known to his Norwegian neighbors and associates as Erik Meling, he gradually came to be called by the more "American" name of Ira Thomason. He married Mary Anders(?)datter Brainerd, one of five daughters and a son born to parents who came from Voss, near Bergen. One of Ira and Mary's grandchildren² contributes some interesting angles to both the Brainerd and Meling ancestries as follows:

"When I was a child of about eight my grandmother Mary Thomason told me this one day. She said 'Remember what I am going to tell you; it may be of interest to someone some day'. As I remember it she told me that she was born or at least lived on a small island off the Norwegian coast. It seems to me she said it was the Isle of Man or Manning though that may easily have been something else. She said her father was a Welch soldier who had settled there. Grandpa's father [Osmund Meling] was rich and owned most of the island. He sold his holdings out and came to America bringing eight poorer families with him. Grandma's family was one of those eight. When they landed in New York a bunco man got hold of my great-grandfather and got his money and he went on West as poor as any of the others."

It is often difficult to analyze tradition and determine the factual. Did the Brainerds also live on Talgoen after coming from Voss or could they have become acquainted with the Melings elsewhere? The Welch ancestry ties in with the "Isle of Man", as the latter is not far north of Wales; but the name of this island is probably more often remembered in error as a substitute for a name forgotten, than any other. The "eight families" idea is also new -- yet in Chapter III we have already mentioned Osmund helping the Survogs; and now the Brainerds. Were there six other families? Would there have been eight families besides the Melings from the three gaards on Talgo? In Chapter III we discussed Osmund's loss of funds through generosity and if we accept the eight-family idea, we wouldn't need the "bunco man"! Or does the "bunco man" refer to Survog?

Mary was "only a very small child" when she came to America. If the Brainerds came on "Enigheden" she would have been less than three.

¹Part of the Ann McFadden story of Chapter III. Josie's letters are in the possession of M.A.S.Anderson. Mrs. Mary Gaard (?) has the Sorvaag church picture. ²Mrs. H.J.Waters.

Her parents¹ settled(?) in Earl Township, LaSalle County, on a farm which Mary's brother, Andrew B. Anderson² later sold to Arthur Egeland. Andrew B. Anderson was the man mentioned in Chapter XVI as the father of Nettie Hanson.

After their marriage Ira and Mary Thomason lived on a farm near Leland. This may have been the Storesund place on Section 25, Earl Township, as the deed for the latter, dated Aug. 4, 1853 and bearing the name of Franklin Pierce, is made out to Ole Nelson and Ira Thomason. Ira later moved to town where he "ran a furniture store for a number of years. The younger children were all born there and the house is still standing and intact". There were no less than twelve children in the family but the second, third, sixth, and seventh, died in infancy. In 1881 or 1882 Chicago became too competitive and Ira gave up the furniture business in favor of farming. The family moved to northwest Iowa to an 120 acre farm near Alta, Buena Vista County. Here Ira died in 1893 and was buried in the Alta Cemetery. Mary lived 22 years longer, spending part of her time with her children in California and at Huron, South Dakota, but the major part with her daughter Grace in Winnipeg, Canada. It was here she died, but burial was made in the Alta Cemetery at Alta, Iowa.

"My parents were both workers in the Baptist Church", writes the youngest daughter³, both at Leland and later at Storm Lake; Iowa, and believed in temperance in every form. My father had a judicial mind and served as Justice of the Peace for many years, and was often asked to arbitrate questions of contention. He was very honorable in all his dealings and I can remember as a child his proud boast that his word was known to be as good as his bond. ... My mother spent her last few years in our house and was loved by all who knew her for her gracious personality".

Of the children of Ira and Mary Thomason, Emma was the oldest. She was a schoolteacher and taught Holverson District # 5, three and one-half miles southeast of Leland in summer, staying in the homes of her pupils. She married Palmer Fisk Kinney, who helped his father run a grocery store in Leland. Later, Fisk became a photographer. Before her parents moved to Iowa, Emma and Fisk moved to Buena Vista County where Fisk was a game warden in the Storm Lake area. While patrolling the shores of the lake one winter he surprised, and was surprised by one, Dan Danielson, his wife's first cousin from Leland whom he had not seen for a number of years and did not at first recognize. Dan was hunting and fishing in the community. It is not recorded whether the game laws of the State of Iowa were strictly enforced on this particular occasion. Emma died when only 26 years old and her children were yet babies. It is said that she died in Kansas where she had gone to live.⁴

Benjamin and Otis, the next two children died in infancy. Isabelle Eva, the next, was a school teacher like Emma and taught at the same school, Holverson District # 5, three and one half miles southeast of Leland. She left Leland before her marriage, which was to Henry McLean Hopewell, and may have taken place at Tekamah, Burt County eastern Nebraska, where they subsequently resided. Mr. Hopewell was a banker. Eva visited in Leland in the early 1900s when returning from her son's graduation at Madison, Wisconsin. She was reputed to be the historian in the Ira Thomason family.

The fifth child, Henry Oscar Thomason, married Lillian Dripps at Storm Lake, Iowa. Here they raised three children and operated a poultry farm. When this project failed they moved to Oregon and lived for about ten years. They then moved to Seattle. However both are buried

¹Buried in Baker Cemetery. One of them was related to the Beulands, (e.g. George Beuland) of Storm Lake, Iowa.

²One of his children (Alfred) took the name Brainerd and went to Washington. A.B. Anderson was a good friend of Osmund Osmundson Meling. In my notes Mary's brother is also referred to as C.V. Anderson. Did she have two brothers?

³Mrs. John R. Hitchings. (Ira was a deacon)

⁴Around 1940 Fisk Kinney had a first cousin, Miss Jennie Faris, living in Leland.

at Great Falls, Montana.

Edward Spurgeon and Ida Mary, sixth and seventh children died as infants. Seward Lincoln Thomason, the next child, was killed in a runaway south of Leland at the age of 13. Seward was riding with a neighbor hauling a load of corn when the team ran away and he was thrown out of the wagon. Andrew Elmer, ninth in line, married Angeline Julia Pierce, who still resides in Santa Monica, California. They had five children. Their son, Ira, was a buddy in World War I of one, Bill Math-er, his third cousin and also a member of the Ikdal family. They did not realize the relationship until their mothers noticed a certain resemblance between the two boys and inquired as to their respective ancestries.

Alice Irene Thomason, tenth child, spent her youth on the farm and later taught in the high school at Storm Lake, Iowa. Afterward she taught at Tekamah, Nebraska, where she met Clifford Sampson Laughlin. They were married near Alta, Iowa. Clifford was born at Decatur, Burt County, Nebraska, the second of four children born to Thomas Jackson Laughlin and Elnora Hawhurst. He lived in town until he was 12 years old and then on a farm six miles south of Decatur. After his marriage to Alice Thomason he settled at Tekamah, where he was County Superintendent of Schools for four years. He then engaged in the lumber and coal business for six years and in 1908 moved to the city of Huron. central eastern South Dakota, and continued in the same business. Here in 1910 Alice died and was buried in Riverside Cemetery. Clifford remarried Nov. 22, 1917, Martha Tilson Cressey, and still resides at Huron.

The eleventh of the Ira Thomason children, Walter Brainerd, married Mary Hornibrook. They had three children and are still living at Garden Grove, California. The twelfth and last child, Grace Madelle, was a blonde with nice curly hair. When she grew up she attended Buena Vista College, Storm Lake, Iowa, and there met John Russell Hitchings. John was born at Sutherland, Obrien County, northwest Iowa, to William Sidney Hitchings and Cynthia McLean. He graduated from the University of Minnesota and later took up osteopathy. After their marriage, John and Mary settled in the city of his choice, Winnipeg, Canada. Here(?) he practiced osteopathy for a few years and then established the Hitchings Paper Box Co., which was later merged into the Dominion Envelope and Carton Co. -- Western Ltd. They still reside in Winnipeg.

*** **

The next major branch of the Meling family was the Guttorm Meling or Thomas Thomason family. Thomas married Törbjör or Tabitha (Tobia-thal) Agent. He was tall and had a big black beard; she was short and "a good-looking woman and a worker". Tabitha was a second or third cousin of Annie Halsna Anderson, mother of Mrs. E. A. Danielson (see post), and was an only child. After the death of her parents she was adopted by someone in Canada but traced the relationship to her cousin in Leland and came to visit her. This relationship and the name "Torbjör" indicate that she was of Norwegian ancestry, "Agent" probably being the name of the family which adopted her. She may have become acquainted with Tom on this visit to Leland.

After marriage Tom and Tabitha lived for awhile on a farm two miles west of Leland. Then they moved to a farm in Coons Grove about seven miles north and west of Leland. Like his brother Ira, Tom had twelve children, and he also lost four of them in infancy. However Tom lost three more children, possibly four, before they reached the age of 30, and Tabitha also died relatively young. They were "kind of consumptive" according to the terminology of the time. Most of the children reaching majority were "musical", as Tom and Tabitha had a piano -- something unusual in that day.

By 1876 Tom and Tabitha had moved on to a place near, or at, Davis City, Decatur County, southern Iowa, where Tom had a brickyard and/or a farm. This was not far from Lamoni, stronghold of the Reorganized Church of Latter Day Saints, which Tom joined. By 1886 the family had

¹Both spellings are to be found on the tombstones.

returned to Illinois and settled on a farm eight to ten miles straight north of Leland in a vicinity known as Pritchard's Grove. This was the Dulan farm and was just across the road to the west from Tom's younger brother Osmund¹. It was probably while living here that Tabitha died and was buried in Baker Cemetery where her children had been buried before her. While her grave (and Tom's) is unmarked, there are markers for the children, and it is interesting to note that the family name was spelled "Thomasson", with two "s's" in the 1860s, but only one "s" was used by the 80s.

After his wife's death Tom sold out and was unsettled for a while. He lived with his son Francis in Chicago for a time but spent his latter years in Plano, Illinois. He had always been a generous man -- bringing apples to his relatives, etc. -- so when his funds ran out he reaped the fruits of his kindness through two nephews, Osmund and Ed Danielson, who took care of him. He died in Plano and was buried in Baker with the members of his family who had preceded him.

Of the twelve Thomason children, the first was a son who died at two weeks, and the second was probably the one called Francis. He worked in a grist mill in Nebraska² and rode a cream buckskin pony all the way back home one time, probably before his marriage. He gave the pony to his father, who bought a mate for it and drove the pair. Francis married at about the time his brother Tommie died, and started farming north of Leland, near Waterman. Later he worked for the Plano wire Company(?). When this was incorporated by International harvester he followed the Company into Chicago. Here he was employed in the shops of the Pullman Co. and lived in West or East Pullman. In the 1880s he was living there with his two sons. He wanted to stay with his sister Charlotte but that didn't work out so he sort of wandered. For a time he worked for a barbed wire company at DeKalb, Illinois. While here he said he was going west (Mississippi River area ?) to do some trapping. He was never heard from again. His relatives made repeated efforts to get track of him but all to no avail. He had simply disappeared.³

After Francis, Sarah was probably next in line, although some sources say she was the older. She was about 40 years old before she married (near Leland) a music professor by the name of Flinders⁴. He taught violin and other music, going from home to home in Shabbona, Illinois. He also gave lessons around Leland. They had a little girl who died at about six months and is probably buried near Waterman. Sarah was not well and, according to one account, "was kind of a spiritualist, and doctors came out to see her". She and her husband may have lived with Tom for a time but it seems that they went to Chicago where Professor Flinders may have died. Sarah sold books and magazines after her husband's death, wore old, out-of-date clothes, and apparently was one

¹It is possible that Tom lived here before going to Davis City.

²We wonder if this could be Tekamah.

³I have done a great deal of sleuthing in an attempt to locate the two sons mentioned. According to one source one of them was a dentist in Chicago since World War I; but the only dentist bearing the name was of English ancestry. From the old city plats and records in the City Hall I located the former town of Pullman and when I found an old city directory showing a Frank Thomason of the law firm of Thomason and Lundy with an address 10000 south on Longwood Drive (the old Pullman area) I thought I was on the right trail. The firm is defunct but I eventually located descendants of the partners, only to be disappointed again. On a third attempt, I contacted through a credit list, a Mrs. Emory Thomason. Francis's brother Emory died at the age of 14 and what would be more natural than for Francis to name a son after him? Mrs. Emory Thomason also had an old Pullman area address. But, again, no luck. These experiences may be cited to prove that there are too many people in the world to assume (as many of us are wont to do) that someone with the same name is a relative.

⁴This name is very rare in America according to the Flinders Family historian with whom I made vicarious contract. He was also on the trail of Professor Flinders but so far as I know neither of us has been successful.

of those quaint, elderly characters who have rung the doorbells of all of us at some time or other. Partly on account of health she went to the Los Angeles area in California with her younger sister, Ella Kellogg, and lived with her for a time. In 1920 she was still living there -- in Sierra Madre -- and canvassing. She died out there some time after 1923.

Thomas Thomason Jr. or "Tommie" may have been the fourth in the family. He was a great hunter. He never had good health and died of tuberculosis in his late twenties while still living at home. He was apparently buried at Waterman, the post office address for the Pritchards Grove farm. After Tommie was probably Martha M., born Jan. 31, 1861, and died Oct. 6, 1861, just one and one-half months before her mother gave birth to twins on Nov. 21, 1861, making three births within a year. The twins were called Emory J. and Emily J. Emory died before he was 15, while the family was living at Davis City, Iowa, but his body was brought back and buried in Baker Cemetery. Emily lived ten years longer. She became "quite poorly" before her death and "her feet shrank away from her shoes". Her father took her in the buggy from the Pritchards Grove farm to Leland to see the doctor. Upon their return they stayed all night at Osmund's¹ and Tom had to carry her across the yard to the house. In a day or two her feet seemed to be alright and she bought a present for Julia (Osmund's wife). But in two or three days she was dead.

Charlotte may have been the next or eighth child. She married "out West" a doctor by the name of Scribner and they had one son, Clare. In 1920 her sister Sarah did not know where she was located but as late as 1944 it was believed that she was still living in southern California.² After Charlotte probably came the second pair of twins -- both girls this time. One either lived less than a day or was still-born, but the second, Eunice E., lived for two years and one month. The eleventh child was perhaps Addie, who had extra forefingers instead of the usual thumbs and was plagued with ill-health in the bargain. We do not know how old she was at the time of her death but we are led to believe she had attained woman-hood like the other twin, Emily.

It seems that the youngest of Tom and Tabitha Thomason's twelve children was probably Ella. She married Charles or "Chat" Kellogg and lived in Plano for a time. They then moved to Leland where Chat ran a meat market, (he also had one in Downer's Grove), but it was not long before they moved to the Los Angeles Area³. They had five bright children who were doing alright for themselves when visited in 1927. Chat and his oldest son were in the citrus business, either as growers or as shippers or both. As late as November of 1938 they sent a box of fruit back to their Danielson cousins at Leland. However the address has now been lost and my repeated attempts to contact the family have so far been unsuccessful.⁴

¹Perhaps Tabitha was already deceased. The year was 1886.

²The American medical directories fail to reveal our Scribner.

³They may have lived near Chicago first.

⁴Nevertheless the search has been very interesting. In the 1920s one of the girls worked in a department store. The two oldest children were Cecil (born about 1901) and Orville, and while there are a great many Kelloggs in southern California, I had reasoned that there would be only one Cecil Kellogg or one Orville Kellogg in that area. Thus when I found that a Cecil Kellogg had moved from there to Wickenburg, Arizona, I pursued him. After nearly two years of one-way correspondence he answered to the effect that he was not the guy. The clues afforded by records of water users and new and old telephone directories, were not fruitful. I then turned my attention to the box of fruit referred to, the Burlington Railroad, and the Railway Express Co. I was fortunate in catching up with waybill records of the latter just 20 days before they were to be destroyed under the 6-year retention schedule provided by state law. Failing here I contacted wholesale fruit shippers in the Los Angeles area. This was also unfruitful. I am currently pursuing an Orville N. Kellogg through an address from which, the present owner "seems to recall", the said Mr. Kellogg had departed for a certain town in the interior some years ago.

Of corn at 19¢ per bushel; of grizzly bears; of mountain lions;
of divers other matters

Now we have said that Osmund Guttormson Meling begat, by Bertha, his wife, as his fourth child, Osmund Osmundson Meling; or in modern language, Osmund Thomason Jr.

Osmund Thomason Jr. was united in matrimony to Gulia Thoresdatter Grindeim, that is, to Julia Gunderson. She was the third of four children (three girls and one boy) born to Thore (Thø-re) Gonerson Grindeim and Ellamarene (Ellen) Gurosdatter Osmon. Grindeim was located in the vicinity of Bergen and had four farms. Thore's farm contained four acres in the valley and some more up in the mountains. In speaking of her childhood home Julia said: "There were eight farmers living in a ring with a church in the middle. The church bell would ring for one hour every day for many months in memory of the King, and we children would help ring it."²

The Grindeim family came to America in 1847, sailing from Bergen in April on the three-masted ship "Kong Sverre". It took them over two months to cross the ocean and eighteen days to go from New York to Lisbon, Illinois. From New York they went by a river boat to Troy, at the east end of the Erie Canal, and then in a canal boat drawn by two mules to Buffalo at the west end of the canal. Here they boarded a lake vessel and went through the chain of the large lakes to Chicago; and the final stage was by ox team to Lisbon, Illinois. They arrived at Lisbon "near Morris" July 7, 1847.

They stayed at Mission Point, Lisbon, until the Spring of 1848 when they moved to a small farm of 26.52 acres four miles south of Leland. In two years time they bought 80 acres more but perhaps did not get full title until 1857, or after, as it is said that the name of President James Buchanan appears on the deed giving the land over to Thomas Gunderson. The farm is still owned by a member of the family³ and the log house where Julia and her parents lived is still standing. Julia's mother died and her father remarried. Julia "had a pretty hard life" and received only a few weeks of schooling. Even at the age of twelve she would walk to Ottawa, fifteen miles away in order to sell butter and eggs. She also hired out at about this age.

Julia and Osmund Thomason Jr. took up their abode south of the old Meling homestead. After a few years they moved onto a farm two miles west of Leland in Earl Township, LaSalle County. This was located in Section 12 and the schoolhouse on the northwest corner of the section was north of the home farm. They eventually owned 200 acres of land. The Burlington Railroad ran through the farm and the train from Chicago to Mendota and return would stop at Osmund's crossing so that he would not have to walk the two miles. Osmund also lived on a farm in Pritchards Grove, as we mentioned earlier, and lived in Leland for a few years but went back to the home farm⁴ shortly before selling it in 1886.

Osmund sold his farm in order to go to the Ozarks. He did not like the cold and thought it would be warmer down there. The new home was located in Laclede County, south-central Missouri and was just one half mile north of Lebanon, the county seat. They were the only Norwegians in the area. The Union Army had wintered on their farm at one time and when Osmund and his sons worked the ground they would find badges. "A woman writer wrote a book there".⁵

But the cycle of life moved on and the children left home to es-

¹Goner died at sea while fishing at the Lofoten Islands.

²M.A.S. Anderson, loc.cit.

³The old house has now been moved away and only a fine tree marks the spot.

⁴These three locations are hard to reconcile from a time standpoint as we have implied that the family was living at Pritchards in 1886. (See under Thomas Thomason for discussion of Emily's death.)

⁵It would be interesting to verify this statement historically.

tablish homes of their own. The oldest daughter had married and left before they moved to Missouri and now in 1890 and 1892 Osmund's three sons all left for Iowa. Osmund and Julia continued to run the farm alone but in 1894 their son Henry and his bride came down and helped them for two years. Then in 1897 their son William came from Eagle Grove, north central Iowa, and moved them and their stock to that place. Here they rented a farm for awhile and then bought a place in town and lived there. In 1911 they moved to Lamoni in southern Iowa because of their interest in the Latter Day Saints Church, Osmund Jr. having been a member even before the reorganization. When their health waned about 1918 he and Julia went to live with their daughter, Ellen Hayer, who had moved to Lamoni in 1913. They both died there, Osmund in 1918 and Julia nine years later. Both were buried in Rose Hill Cemetery, Lamoni.

Osmund and Julia Thomason had lived together for 61 years at the time of his death. Osmund was 87 years old and his funeral was preached by H.A. Stebbins, the same man who had presided at the funeral of Osmund Sr. 42 years before. Julia lived to be over 90. In retrospect, we are told that Julia was of average height and a little chunky. She was a home body and read a great deal -- mostly the local news -- in her spare time. She always had a jar of cookies on hand. (Oh nostalgic statement! where are the grandmothers' cooky jars today?) Osmund was very neat in appearance and never wore soiled clothes in public. He was also very particular about the way his surroundings looked. In his spare time he read the Bible. By nature he was outspoken -- would say things quick; and he was very generous. He once went to town and had the drayman take a load of coal out to a poor family living across the road and paid for it. He gave a man working on his farm \$10 extra to see if he was honest. He never rehired him as he kept the \$10. Osmund was also somewhat fun-loving. He raced his team one time when Julia was along. He stood up and urged the horses to do their best, and so on, much to the embarrassment of his good wife, who, of course, thought he should act his age.

The oldest in the Osmund Thomason Jr. family was Ellen Bertha or Ella. She married Christian F. Hayer, a member of a prominent pioneer family by that name -- originally spelled Heier. This was one of eight marriages between the Ikdal and Heier families.¹ Chris was the second of eight children born to Oliver Hayer and Julia Elefson. Chris and Ella were married at Leland by W.W. Blair, and farmed for a time before moving to Sheridan, Illinois, where Chris ran the meat market.

In January of 1882 the Hayers moved to a point two miles from Eagle Grove, Iowa, a town then just a few months old. "Unlike many of the pioneers", reads Chris's obituary, "they did not settle along a timbered stream, but purchased the raw, open, unimproved prairie land". "Instead of the present graveled highways along section lines, an obscure trail led as the crow flies across the rolling prairies. In place of the well-tiled, cultivated fields and farmstead groves, the treeless grass-covered uplands were dotted here and there with ponds filled with dark bullrushes and muskrat houses". "The hardships of the pioneer he and his companion knew. The prairie sod was tough and cold and wet and the grain yields were small. There were dry seasons. There were blizzards in winter time when one might easily be lost in going from the house to the barn. It required persistence and a lot of hard work in growing the small yield of crops. One year, after having struggled all season to produce a crop, they had some corn to sell and went to town to inquire the price. The grain dealer in the new town told them that if they would sort the corn carefully and throw out all the nubbins, he might give him 19¢ per bushel delivered. ... His love for good live stock never waned."

Ella did most of the lathing on their house. She taught school in their upstairs until the district school was built. She and Chris left

¹One tradition put this number at 23 "without a first cousin marrying a first cousin". Possibly there were Ikdal-Heier marriages in Norway. Four of the eight marriages are with fifth generation Ikdals and will be discussed. The other four may be found in the outline pages of family relationships.

their 320 acre farm in 1893 and moved to town, where they lived until 1913. In the latter year they went to Lamoni to be near Osmund and Julia, and also the Latter Day Saints Church, into which Chris had been inducted by Tom Hougas in 1886.¹ Chris died in 1928 and Ella 11 years later. They are buried in Rose Hill Cemetery, Lamoni.

Next to Ella in the Osmund Thomason Jr. family was Franklin Osmund. He returned to Illinois from Missouri to get his wife whom he had known before the Thomasons moved. Her name was Bertha Tyslan or Bertha Williamson and she was the daughter of a minister. When the Thomasons left Lac Clede County, Missouri, for Iowa, Frank and Bertha went to Kansas City. Here he worked in a smelter for a railroad (Santa Fe?) for many years but finally moved to near-by Independence, Missouri, where he bought and built. He had five children. Frank and Bertha are both buried at Independence.

The third child and the second son born to Osmund Thomason Jr. and Julia, his wife, was Henry Mathias. As a lad he was the typical "out-door boy" and loved to be out in the woods. He and a chum used to go off by themselves into the woods where the present Shabbona State Park is located. Later Henry attended Northwestern University in Chicago for three summers. Before the family left Illinois Henry wanted to go to Montana, his present home; but his father pointed out that they were going to Missouri and he should stick around a year anyway. The year grew into six before Henry left Missouri for Eagle Grove, Iowa, to help his brother William on his farm. Here he met and married Lydia Martha Harris who was born in Nebraska, the daughter of Levi M. Harris and Esther Doolittle.

The young couple went down to Missouri to help his parents for the first two years after their marriage, returning to Eagle Grove in the Spring of 1896. They ran a farm at the locality known as Head Grove for a year and then rented for four years. They then moved to the northwest 160 acres of Section 20, Horton Township, Stevens County, western Minnesota and farmed for ten years. When Henry "kinda played out" he decided to fulfill his old desire to go to Montana.

In 1912 they went out to the northwestern corner of the state to a town called Polson. Here Henry was put in charge of a warehouse for the Sommers Lumber Company on Swan Lake, just east of Flathead Lake, for five years. Following this he entered the forest service and spent seven summers as a fire lookout on Holland Lookout, elevation 10,000 feet, 6 inches, in the Swan Range. He then saw duty on the South Fork of the Flathead as fire guard.

Meanwhile Henry had been looking about for a place to build a permanent home. He looked around over near Libby in the extreme northwestern corner of the state but it was not wild enough to suit him. It was more remote and inaccessible in the Swan Range area and it was here that he settled the first year that he was in the forestry service. It was on Section 8, Township 20, Range 16, Missoula County, Montana. There were only two other settlers in the 40 miles between Section 8 and the nearest village of Swan Lake.² The wagon trail was so poor it was necessary to pack all supplies in from that point. There were deer, coyote, mountain lion, elk and bear, and lots of them are still here.

In the early 1940s I had the good luck to visit this cousin of ours who had so far forsaken the fertile plains of the Midwest. We left the main road not far from the point where the first gold in Montana was discovered and after crossing the Garnet Mountains and winding through foothills and forests and past lakes for 71 miles we stopped at a country store and post office called Seeley Lake. My interrogation brought out the following:

"Henry Thomason? Why, yes! He lives up the road a piece. Its about -- oh, I guess its about 35 miles up there. Watch for a side road".

"A -- er -- could there be more than one Henry Thomason? His address is Seeley Lake."

¹This must have been when he was back in Illinois on a visit unless Tom was in Eagle Grove doing church work. Tom Hougas was a Slooper (Descendant of passengers on Sloop "Restoration").

²Present population (1938), 53.

"No, he's the one. We take in a purty big territory here. I should'nt wonder if he didn't have a sign up on the road. Do you know, Ev?"

"I ain't sure. But if you see a sign sayin' 'Rumble Creek' you've gone too far".

After a long drive through dense forests with nary a house to be seen we saw a road sign reading, "Thomason Ranch" and turned off. Since the trees were so thick and tall that the sun could not dry out the road, we got stuck. With a great deal of effort we got loose and drove to the end of the trail, the snow-covered peaks of the Swan Range shining in the sun directly ahead of us.

We drove into a tiny yard or clearing on the diagonal corners of which were the house, the barn, and the ice-house. On our left lay a dead porcupine. The buildings were all of logs and those of the house looked as though they had been stained until they almost shone.

Henry was short and grizzled like the old-timers in the movies. During introductions he kept saying that "the lad" would be down soon. We envisioned some boy that he had hired to relieve his bachelor's solitude and consequently were quite unprepared when "the lad" hove in view. He was Henry's son Maurice -- at least six feet tall, around 40, and as sturdy a lumber jack as ever hired out to Paul Bunyan. Logger in summer and trapper in winter, he had faced the dangers of freezing and starvation while following trap lines 30 or 40 miles long, up among the high peaks.

While sitting in the living room talking about the family history, I asked Henry how he got one of the many trophies displayed there.

"That's the skin of a mountain lion. He was stalking a deer down across the yard one morning so I picked up my gun and got him out of the window."

"No-o-o! In your own yard?" I was incredulous.

"Ya. You see there's a deer lick in the yard."

"What's a deer lick?"

"Oh, its a place where there was some salt one time and the deer come there nearly every day to lick. You can see their marks. I'll show you when we go out."

With a little encouragement Henry told me more about the wild animals.

"Grizzly bears are about the most cunning animals though. They'll often get around a trap in some way or other. I had a trap set near a pen one time -- you see we fasten the trap to a pole as this prevents them from taking a trap and smashing it to pieces, and also makes it easier to trail them. Well a grizzly sow had been caught in the trap and in escaping with the trap, it had been caught under a windfall. She was busy with it so she didn't see me until I had sneaked up on her. All of a sudden she wheeled and made a lunge at me. She did this twice. Then she buckled down and pulled on the trap. But I shot her through the brain and went on to inspect the pen. When I got back she was sitting up like a dog though her brains were oozing out of the bullet wound. She lunged at me again and it took another bullet to finish her. ... I've known a grizzly with her foot caught in a trap to conceal herself beside her trail and lie in wait for the hunter because she knew he would be along."

For dinner we had canned elk meat served in a spacious modern dining room. Within a short walk of the clearing Maurice caught several fine fish in just a few minutes time. An ample garden could be glimpsed in another clearing. Fresh, cold mountain water flowed almost at the very doorstep. To the east above the tree tops the snow peaks of the Swan Range and to the west, those of the Mission Range, afforded all the scenery backdrop one could wish. With a radio and magazines to bring in the outside world only when desired -- well, "what more could a feller want"?

Realizing that Henry lived in the largest no-road area in the state of Montana and one of the largest in the whole Northwest, I could not resist pointing through the woods to the east and asking, just before we left:

"If you were to walk straight through those woods as the crow flies,

Henry, how far would it be to the nearest house?"

"Oh, 'bout 60 miles." And a moment later, with a grin, he added: "I'm not quite as bad off yet as another old-timer around here who lives out near the road you left over there. He told me a while back he guessed he was goin' t' have to move. It was gettin' too civilized. He said it was gettin' so that he saw a car go by almost every day now."

The fourth child in the Osmund Thomason Jr. family was William Arthur. He went to Lebanon, LaClede County, Missouri, with his parents in 1886 as we have seen. Then in the latter part of 1890 he married a girl by the name of Jennie Herron and the two of them went to Eagle Grove, Iowa, where Ella and Chris Hayer had been living since 1882. William has been a successful farmer and owns two farms on Route 3. He and Jennie were still living on one of them in the early 1940s. They had six children, three boys and three girls.

The fifth child, David Alexander, died in infancy and was buried in Baker Cemetery. The sixth and last, was Lyda Olive Juliette, who died shortly before reaching the age of 19. She was buried at Independence, Missouri, where her older brother Frank was living.

CHAPTER XXII

We do a lot of moving and meet up with a couple of mayors

The fifth in the family of Osmund Guttormson Meling and Bertha Mattiasdatter Sorvaag was a baby boy named Mattias. He died and they had another infant son, whom they also named Mattias. He also died; and the seventh child was Ann, who married Kristen Kristenson Valle as mentioned in Chapter III.

Kristen Kristenson Valle (pronounce "Vad la") was the third son born to Kristen Danielson Valle of the gaard Valle in Aarland¹ (Aurland)² or Aardal (Ørdal)³, Stavanger Amt. His mother, Merthe Thorsdatter, was apparently his father's second wife.⁴ The family came to America in 1837⁵ on the ship "Enigheden", whose voyage was described when writing of Ann's parents in Chapter III, q.v. The section of the passenger list treating of the Valle family appears as follows:

38 Christen Danielson	Walde	42	male	farmer
39 Merthe Thorsdatter	do	29	female	do
40 Daniel Christen	do	14	"	"
41 Jacob	do	11	—	
42 Christen	do	2½	"	do

¹Cadbury in Studies and Records, 2:50. ²R.B.Anderson, op.cit., 61
³A.E.Strand, History of the Norwegians in Illinois, 295 (Chicago, 1905).

⁴Cadbury, loc.cit. It is said that Kristen Kristenson had a half-brother in Norway. Was he an only child of Kristen Danielson by his first wife?

⁵Strand, loc.cit., gives 1835 for Kristen (and Ann Meling). Kett, LaSalle County History, 494, gives 1836. InterState Publishing Company, History of LaSalle County, 180-181 (Chicago, 1886), also gives 1836. Ann's obituary gives 1836 for her coming. These sources are obviously all in error.

Kristen's parents located on a farm in Mission Township¹ near Norway, La Salle County, Illinois². In America they forsook the name Valle ("Vadla") or Walde³ and the father became known as Christopher Danielson;⁴ and the son also.⁵ The mother, Martha, died and Christopher Sr. married a third time -- to Sara Olesdatter, widow of Knud Danielson⁶ Waalem⁷, who already had a daughter, Malinda.⁸ The famous cholera scourge of 1849 took young Christopher's father, stepmother, and two half-brothers, and a working man, all of whom died within a few days in one house.⁹ Young Chris was only 14 at the time and an old man by the name of Ole Quam⁹ helped him make rough boxes to bury them in. They were buried at night as everyone was afraid of the cholera.¹⁰

This must have been a heart-breaking experience for one so young. But in that early day, when hardships had already closely drawn the common bonds of man, there were usually generous souls ready to help those in need. And so a family by the name of Beech asked the orphan lad:

"What are you going to do now, Chris?"

"I don't know."

"Well, we do! You're coming home with us!"

Chris worked for the Beeches a while and then for others. His earnings averaged about \$8 a month during the first three years. He also helped to lay the old plank road which ran straight north out of Ottawa for about six miles. When he was 22 he acquired 80 acres of land in the neighborhood of Leland and married Ann Thomason.¹¹ Justice Arrowhead performed the ceremony in Earlville, Illinois.

Chris and Ann Danielson ("Vadla" to the Norwegians) began their married life a bit unusually considering the time and the prevalent means, or rather the lack of means, of transportation. They took a honeymoon trip. This was accomplished in a covered wagon which carried them clear out to Dunleaf, Iowa, and thence to Brownsville and Newburgh, Huston County, southeastern Minnesota.¹² Chris did not like it in Minnesota and became ill. The Doctor told Ann she must take him back to Illinois. This diagnosis seemed fantastic as homesickness was not considered a real sickness. But they went back to Leland, where Chris recovered, at any rate.

The home farm was in Section 12, Earl Township, two miles straight west of Leland. It was eventually enlarged until it was just a fraction under 200 acres, the fraction being due to the main line of the Burlington Railroad which ran along the north edge of the farm for a mile. Chris helped make the grade when they built it. However before the days of railroad service the produce had to be hauled by wagon or sled to Chicago. This was about 70 miles. In the summer they hauled grain and Chris and others would sleep under the wagons. In the winter it

¹Cadbury, loc.cit. Strand, op.cit., 294. ²Strand, loc.cit.

³"Vad la" and "Wal da" make it appear that there was uncertainty in the minds of those first attempting to write down the Norwegian pronunciation of "Val le", Although "Walde" appears on the passenger list R.B.Anderson (p.61) gives "Valle" and the family tradition supplies "Vad la". Inger Vadla of near Roland, Iowa, was a relative of Kristen and said she had carried him to his baptism.

⁴R.B.Anderson, op.cit., 231. Cadbury, loc.cit.

⁵He had the name changed officially according to one account.

⁶R.B.Anderson, op.cit., 229, 231. ⁷Cadbury, loc.cit.

⁸R.B.Anderson, Ibid., and page 223. Parents died the same day (Strand, loc.cit.). ⁹Father of Arthur Quam, banker. (See R.B.Anderson, op.cit. 96, 176-7)

¹⁰Buried in the Kleng Peerson Park about two miles from Norway on the south side of road to Ottawa according to one account. (But this is not the location of this park.)

¹¹Strand, op.cit., 294. Contributed by M.A.S.Anderson. In the History of LaSalle County, 180-181, it states that he settled on his land in 1856, when actually he was 21. Perhaps it was near the end of the year when he would be nearly 22.

¹²One wonders if these towns were not later visited, or had already been visited by the wandering Madisons, q.v. They were in southeastern Minnesota at about that time.

was butchered hogs in sleds, and the men would take guns and sleep on the loads. The guns were for protection against the wolves which, being hungry and smelling the meat, would bother them in the woods near Chicago. The market would be only \$1.25 per 100 pounds, "but how big those dollars looked", says our account.

The Danielsons visited a great deal with the Bensons, the Ole Bakers, and their Ikdal cousins, the Hansons (Storesunds).

In 1888 Chris and Ann retired to Sheridan, Illinois, renting the farm to their son Ed. On March 17, 1894 they sold the farm to him, and then bought a farm two miles south and one-half mile east of Lamoni, Iowa. After living there at least a year they left their youngest son Joe on the place and returned to Illinois. In 1905 Chris was spoken of by Strand¹ as "the well known retired farmer of Sheridan, Ill. ... Mr. Danielson has held several positions of trust such as school director, highway commissioner, and supervisor (when he lived in Iowa). He still owns a farm in Iowa. ... All his other land holding he has sold. With his wife he now lives a retired life at Sheridan, where he owns a fine new house and several lots. He has been an ardent church worker and contributed to charitable institutions when called upon".

We should all be proud of the fact that Chris and Ann Danielson cooperated to the best of their ability with Rasmus B. Anderson, the first important historian of Norwegian immigration. In his book, which we have frequently mentioned, on pages 150-51 he says: "... Ann ... married Christopher Danielson, one of my best correspondents in LaSalle County, ..." On page 177: "... and particularly to Mr. Chr. Danielson, I am under obligation for many valuable letters in regard to the early immigrants". And again on page 223 Anderson makes a similar acknowledgement. It is encouraging and interesting to realize that our forefathers understood the importance of family records as a basis for national history. Practically all of them kept information in the family Bible and saw to it that it was complete.

Chris and Ann Danielson had nine children, raised every one of them, every one of them married, and all but one had children -- which is, all told, a remarkable record. In Chapter III we took a preview of their 60th wedding anniversary which took place July 5, 1916. The newspaper account states: "The aged couple are believed to be among the oldest married couples in LaSalle County." All nine children were there. Although Ann was 82, she prepared dinner. What a grand day of triumph and fruition for these two lives, parallel since birth!

Chris died the next year and was buried in Rose Hill Cemetery, Lamoni, Iowa. Ann went to live with her daughter Ida at Lamoni but died while living with her daughter Mary in her old home at Sheridan, Illinois. However she also was buried in Rose Hill, Lamoni. She was a member of the Latter Day Saints Church, having been baptized July 15, 1866.

The oldest of the nine Danielson children was Martin Jacob. He worked for his cousins, the Sampson K. Sampsons, as a young man, and then married Julia Marie Hayer. She was the daughter of Hans and Sarah Hayer, a member of the third generation of Hayers,² and a first cousin of the Chris Hayer already discussed. Thus we have a case of first cousins marrying first cousins. Martin and Julia lived first on a farm one mile straight east of the Danielson home farm but only their oldest child was born there. They then moved to the Hans Hayer farm in Miller Township about seven miles north of Marseilles, where the rest of the children were born. When the youngest was still a baby the family moved to the town of Lamoni, Iowa. They were about the first of the Danielsons to go to this vicinity.

At Lamoni Martin had a farm quite a ways out from town but lived in town and drove back and forth to work. He contracted tuberculosis through exposure, sold out, and went to Arizona, where he worked on a ranch near Phoenix. The town of Wray, northeastern Colorado, was next, and following this, Los Angeles, where he bought a place and prepared to stay. However Julia became homesick so they came back to Lamoni,

¹Op.cit., 294. Contributed by M.A.S. Anderson.

²That is those traced in the Hayer Family History, q.v. Copy in possession of Mrs. Charles Strayer Sr., Emington, Illinois.

Iowa, and built a new house. Here Martin died and was buried in Rose Hill Cemetery. Julia went to live with her daughter Vera at Independence, Iowa, and died there in a sanitarium. She was also buried in Rose Hill.

The second in the Danielson family was Daniel Christopher. Dan was always full of fun and mischief. One of the practical jokes of his youth was to "fix up" the family buggy for courting. The boys were supposed to take turns using the buggy but sometimes due to special dates or something they were allowed to take it on the other fellow's night -- shades of the modern squabbles over using the family car. In order to get even the "injured" party wired a cowbell under the buggy and stuffed cloths around the clapper. The cloths were supposed to work loose and let the bell ring when the driver started to "spark".

Dan married Ellen Holverson, who was born on a farm four miles south of Leland to Knute Holverson Sola and his wife Elizabeth. Dan and Ellen set up housekeeping on a farm which adjoined Martin on the north. The first three children were born there. They then moved to Leland and the fourth and fifth children were born in a house on the edge of town. Here Ellen died. She was buried in the Indian Creek Cemetery four and one-half miles south of Leland.

Dan Danielson then went to Mt. Ayr, Ringgold County, southern Iowa, a point not far west of Lamoni and near where his brother had a farm. Here he married Margaret (Maggie) Woods, but returned with her to Illinois and rented a place nine miles north of Somonauk. Three more children were born here. Finally they returned to Iowa and lived in the town of Mount Ayr, where Maggie also died. Dan is still living and divides his time between the Ottawa-Leland area and southern Iowa.

Bertha Ann, third in the Chris Danielson family, married another Hayer -- Lorenzo. Lorenzo was a brother of Julia Marie, and so we have the case of a brother and sister marrying a brother and sister. Lorenzo was the oldest and Julia next among six children.¹ Bertha and Lorenzo started out on a farm which they bought in Miller Township adjoining the Hans Hayer farm on the west. All four of their girls were born there. When the oldest girl was about 18 they moved to a farm about three miles northeast of Lamoni, Iowa. After three or four years they moved to town and soon bought a place. Here Bertha died of pernicious anemia and six years later Lorenzo died of creeping paralysis. They are both buried in Rose Hill Cemetery.

The fourth in the family was Osmund Mathias. He attended Northwestern University for a time. The girl of his choice was Carrie Larson the oldest of five children born to William Larson Ness(?) and his wife Torbjor. Torbjor had worked for Chris and Ann Danielson when she had first come to America. Carrie was born and raised on the Larson farm in Earl Township about three miles east of Earlville.

After their marriage "Oz" and Carrie moved onto the farm where Martin first lived -- one mile east of the Danielson home farm. They later bought this farm and both of their children were born there. When Carrie's parents died they moved to their farm until the oldest child was grown, when they moved into the town of Leland and lived for about ten years. Here Oz and his younger brother Ed engaged in the blacksmith, wagon, and buggy business. After the train accident which killed Oz's son, his wife, child, and mother-in-law, Oz and Carrie spent their winters in California and their summers in Leland. During the last few years of their lives they sold the property in Leland and went back to the Larson farm where they built a modern house a number of years before. They did not attempt to farm but rented out the land. Carrie died here and Oz lived on alone until his death the following year. They are buried in Leland Cemetery, one-half mile north of Leland.

In Strand's History² of 1905 is the following: "Osmund Danielson belongs to the Reorganized Church of Latter Day Saints. He follows two great cardinal principles, and credits them for his success -- honesty and sobriety".

Ida May, fifth child and second daughter born to Chris and Ann

¹I have not verified this with the Hayer Family History.

²Strand, op.cit., 295.

Danielson married still another third generation Hayer -- Charles. He was the youngest son of Oliver Hayer Sr., and was a first cousin of Christian and of Lorenzo and Julia Marie. This marriage makes four sets of first cousins marrying first cousins, although no one married their own first cousin. Charles was born and raised on a farm two miles north and one west of Stavanger, Illinois. After marriage he and Ida moved to the Eagle Grove, Iowa vicinity¹ and lived on a farm near Head Grove. Later they returned to Seneca, Illinois, where Charlie engaged in the lumber business with Dave Danielson for several years and bought a house. He afterward operated a grain business. In 1905 they moved to Missouri and lived on a farm near Holden, Johnson County, in the western part of the state. When Charles' health commenced to fail they moved to a small place on the outskirts of Holden, where he died. His body was taken to Lamoni and burial was in Rose Hill. Ida purchased a home in Lamoni and still lives there.

Edward Almer, No.6 in the Danielson family, married Anna M. Anderson. She was the only daughter and the youngest of four children born to Andrew or "King" Anderson and his wife Anna Halsna, a second or third cousin to Tabitha Agent Thomason, q.v. Anna was born about one mile west of Knute Holversons near the Indian Creek Cemetery.

After marriage Ed and Anna started housekeeping on the Danielson home farm two miles west of Leland. Ed bought the place later and the three oldest children were born there. He was a successful farmer and was widely known for his farming activities. In the spring of 1895 the family rented the farm and moved to Leland where Ed built a house and entered the blacksmith, wagon, and buggy business with his brother Oz. Later Ed went into the hardware business. At one time he "was active in horse trade, selling horses from the block at Chicago, Omaha, and several other points. In 1906 he sold 2560 head of horses in four hours at Omaha, still, it is claimed, standing as a record of speed in moving horses".² He also was a successful livestock feeder and dealer. He was a dealer in farm implements and in automobiles and had one of the early Ford agencies -- in the 1910s. He had the Ford agencies at Earlville, Marseilles, and Ottawa as well as Leland at one time; and also had the agency at La Salle. In addition to all these varied interests he served as Mayor of Leland for no less than 16 years. It is quite evident that Ed Danielson was one of those very rare individuals who have the enterprise and acumen necessary to make a success in anything he undertakes, no matter how varied it is.

Anna died in a convalescent home in Sheridan, Illinois, and Ed died 51 days later. Both are buried in Indian Creek Cemetery.

Seventh among Chris and Ann's children was David Nathaniel Danielson. He espoused CarrieJane Weld, daughter of George Weld, a Welshman, and his wife Mary, a Norwegian. Carrie was born on a farm two miles north and about two miles west of Stavanger, Illinois.

Dave and Carrie first settled at Seneca, Illinois, where Dave was in the lumber business with Charlie Hayer, his brother-in-law. They then went to Downers Grove where he ran a meat market for cousin Charles Kellogg. Then to Leland where the oldest child was born, and next to Sheridan, where Dave dug wells and a second child was born. The fifth place of residence was Thompson, Illinois, where he bought grain. The sixth was in southern Iowa on a farm of George Welds about four miles north of Lamoni. The seventh was in the town itself and here Dave ran the meat market. The two youngest children were born in Iowa. The 8th home involved a jump way out west to Bozeman, Gallatin County, southwestern Montana.

Selling out at Bozeman the whole family drove 1700 miles to Ida Hayers at Holden, Missouri, southeast of Kansas City. Here Dave had the Ford agency but traded it (?) for a ranch near Wieboldt, Montana. This was during the First World War. Carrie and the children stayed at Holden while Dave came to Illinois and ran Ed's Ford agency at Earlville, and later at La Salle. The family came direct from Holden to La Salle. The 11th home was in Leland (two years) and the 12th and

¹It is said that Oliver Hayer was also out there.

²From his obituary.

final one was at Independence, Missouri, where the central offices of the Latter Day Saints Church was located. Until he sold his ranch in Montana to a hotel in Wieboldt, Dave went out every year to help his second son run the place. Dave and Carrie are still living at Independence.

The youngest girl and the eighth child, Mary Emma Jane Danielson lived with her sister Bertha for two years about a year after the latter's marriage. Bertha was kind of homesick so Ann consented to the arrangement. While at Bertha's Mary attended school on School Section. When she was 23 she married Andrew Gaard.

Anders Knutson Gaard was the son of Knute Anderson Gaard and Christene Svensdatter Sigmondstad. Gaard was one of the three farms on the island Talgo northeast of Stavanger which we discussed in Chapter III as the home of the Meling family. Mary's mother, you see, was born on one of these three neighboring farms. Andrew had a brother Sven who came to America in 1882 and gave a good report of the country. So Andrew and his Uncle Olaus Gaard came in 1883 by way of England and Glasgow. The ship from there to America was the "State of Indiana", which used both steam and sails. The passengers helped hoist the latter. The two newcomers landed in New York City and took the train to Morris, Illinois, where Sven was living. Before his marriage Andrew worked for William Williamson (Storm?).

Mary and Andrew Gaard operated the general store in Sheridan, Illinois and lived up overhead. In 1900 they moved to the home Chris and Ann had built in Sheridan. In 1903 they bought a store in Rake, just under the Minnesota line in central Iowa, but returned to Sheridan within a year.

Andrew and a cousin went back to Norway on a visit in 1904. They were gone from May until August. Andrew went to Oslo and then took a coast boat to Stavanger, where his cousin (by marriage), Josephine Madison (also touring in Europe) had asked him to meet her. While the two were together Andrew inquired of an old settler uncle and found out that the basement (no house) where he had played as a child had belonged to Osmund Meling, his wife's grandfather.

Upon Andrew's return he and Mary went to Chicago where he worked for Reid-Murdoch for a year. Then they returned to Sheridan. Since 1918 they have lived in the old Chris Danielson home.

Joseph Clarence Danielson was the ninth and last in the family. He married Hattie Rush, whom he met while she was working for Joseph Smith III. She was the oldest(?) of six children and her parents were from near Bowling Green, Kentucky. After their marriage at Lamoni, Joe and Hattie lived on Chris's place two miles south and one-half mile east. He finally bought this property. After living on the farm less than two years they moved to town but the oldest child, at least, was born in the country. Joe later bought a lot in Lamoni, built, and moved on it. He manages the Farmers Store, a cooperative. Like his brother Ed, Joe has also been a mayor, serving Lamoni in that capacity for six years.

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Returning from the fifth to the fourth generation, the child born next to Ann in the Osmund Guttormson Meling family was Mattias. This was the Mattias shown on the Enigheden list (see Chapter III) in the company of the servant girl Bergethe Marie Cederberg. We have mentioned how he died shortly after the family's arrival in America -- the third Mattias and the last one to die in infancy.

Osmund and Bertha Meling had yet a fourth Mattias -- they seemed determined to have a boy named Mattias and we might guess that it was to honor Bertha's father and to serve as a remembrance of the Mattias they had lost. Then, too, as we have mentioned earlier, it was a custom to name a child after one that had deceased. With this Mattias the parents had better luck, although it still was not complete as he died not long before he was to have become 21. He was just six days older than his niece Anna Madison and she and her sister Bertha were very fond of their "Uncle Mathias" Thomason who was their playmate in childhood and youth.¹

¹M.A.S. Anderson, loc.cit.

The Danielson family has a memento of Mathias in a little gold heart which he had sent to his sister Ann. He is buried in Baker Cemetery.

The fourth Mattias was the ninth and last child born to Osmund Guttormson Meling (Thomason). He was also the last grandson born to the Erland branch of the Ikdal Family.

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There are three families in America, beside those mentioned in footnotes, with which there are traditions of relationship with the Ikdales. These are the Mathias and Bertha Sawyer, and the Ole Vatland, and the Orsland -- Hovick families.

Mathias Sawyer (Mch.25,1822-Jan.14,1911), resident of the Leland, Illinois vicinity, was from Skjold and was said to have lived for a year on the farm of Tollef Holverson Kallecod (See Chapter I). Matilda Egeland states that Mathias Sawyer was a straight second cousin of her mother, Sarah Hanson, whom he frequently came to visit. (They were great friends.) The Norwegian word was "Tremenning", and although it means "3", they always interpreted it as second cousin, referring to the relationship of the grandchildren. Matilda feels pretty sure that the connection was through Eli Aursland. On the other hand, Jacob Sawyer (at the age of 90), Mathias' son, felt that the relationship was only with John Hanson and a marriage relationship at that. Jacob's brother Sam (at the age of 85) stated that he had heard many times that Mathias and Ann Vadla (nee Meling or Thomason) were second cousins but that he was not related to Serena Hanson. Tollef Kallecod of the Hundsnes branch of our family denied the Sawyer relationship but William A. Thomason felt that it existed.

Ole Vatland, resident of the Leland vicinity and of the New Sharon Mahaska County, Iowa, vicinity, was from the farm of Vatland, Vatlandsdal, Skjold. Henry Vatland of Oskaloosa, Iowa, son of Ole, states that his father was a second cousin of Serena Storesund and of Anna Martha Knudson on the female side. Ole's father, Hendrik, married a Frokken Vatland who inherited a gaard on Vatland (near Vats Lake), and Hendrik and she lived there. Frokken Vatland was thus a first cousin of Eli Aursland, according to Henry. There is not enough evidence to say whether this relationship would be on the Ikdal or Musland side but the latter seems slightly the more logical. Henry's sister, Mrs. Sam Sawyer,¹ also recalls the relationship with Serena Storesund. However Ole Sevig did not know of the relationship; and Matilda Egeland "feels pretty sure" that we are not related, explaining that the tradition possibly arose from Ole Watland's long sojourn with the Hansons and from his being confirmed with Anna Martha Knudson.

I explored the tradition of relationship with the Barney Orsland family by visiting members in Sioux Rapids, Iowa. They confirmed the tradition but could not explain the connection. The Orslands have also had the tradition of relationship with the Rosdails. Matilda Egeland states that her mother was a first cousin of Barney Orsland and his sister, Mrs. Hovick, mother of a Charles Hovick attending school at Northfield, Minnesota, in 1946.²

¹There is another sister in Oskaloosa, a brother in Grinnell, Iowa, and two in Albert Lea, Minnesota. The mother's name was Bertha Straum of Skjoldastrauen.

²Letter to the compiler dated Dec. 27, 1946.

CHAPTER XXIII

Wherein we learn that American horses do not understand Norwegian;
and meet a minister, an auctioneer, and another mayor

In Chapter II when writing of Segve Larson Sandvik and his wife Bertha Serina Sjursdatter Hundsnes, we said that they had eight children and listed them as Anna Martha, Lars, Osmund, Seri, Gudmund Lars, Karen Serina, Syvert, and Mette Margrethe. There was also a little girl who died at the age of two and one-half years.

Anna Martha, the oldest, married Lars Iverson Bjoland, and with this name there are a number of traditions of relationship on the part of the Ikdals. Most of these traditions are concerned with the Bulands in America¹ but one relates that Lars Bjoland was related to the Erlands (i.e. the Vilum Vilumson II Erlands) in some way. Remember Ingibret Johanneson Erland was born on Bjoland. The farm was located on the west side of the Skjoldafjord, just where the northern end of the Skjoldastraumen starts to widen into the fjord proper. It was only a short distance north of Erland.

Lars Bjoland was successful at commercial fishing in his younger days. He also learned the shoemakers trade, which was quite popular in that part of Norway at that time. When he married Anna Martha he bought the farm Hatlestad and, of course, as was the custom, exchanged his name for "Hatlestad". The farm is listed by Rygh² as number 80 among the gaards in Skjold and is one of the few whose spelling has not changed in the last two and one-fourth centuries. It is located on the east side of the northern part of the Skjoldafjord along the road from Ikdal to Frovik and Skjold. There are four farms on the gaard according to the map, three of them grouped fairly close together to the south.

Lars and Anna Martha Hatlestad had eight children -- four girls and four boys. The oldest, Martha, died when young and the others, when grown, slipped away one by one to America. At last only Sønneva remained but after the death of her husband in the late 1890s, and the death of Anna Martha's mother in July of 1902, the desire of the three people remaining to see the loved ones in America became more impelling. Thus when the youngest son came home on a visit in 1902, Lars, Anna Martha, Sønneva, and her five children returned to America with him. It was an important and unusual move for the Hatlestad parents to make as Anna Martha was 75 and Lars no less than 84. Very few people in the sunset of life have the resolution to pull up roots as firmly imbedded as theirs, to say nothing of attempting such a journey.

They sailed from Stavanger and came by way of England. The crossing took about two weeks. It was arranged that the newcomers should first go to daughter Laura Richardson's at Lee, Illinois. Her oldest son Lyman drove the Democrat wagon to the station to meet them. On the way home the team got to acting up and started going so fast that it looked as though they were going to get out of hand. Everyone got excited and Grandpa Lars started yelling the Norwegian "B-r-r-r", or however they tell horses to stop in Norway. The horses failed to understand Norske sprog and only went the faster. The new arrivals spoke no English and poor Lyman could not speak Norwegian. However he finally remembered how to say, "shut up", in Norske and while he did not want to insult his new-found grandparents the first thing, he had no choice in the matter. When they reached Laura's, Lars told his daughter that

¹I present these for what they may be worth: The most plausible is that the mother (Bertha?) of the Buland lawyer in Storm Lake, Iowa was a sister of Mary Andersdatter Brainerd, wife of Ira Thomason. The Bulands were related to Mrs. Ira Hanson. Bertha Buland was a sister of Chris and Gudmund Buland and of Ole L. Heiers wife. The Bulands were not related to Ann Danielson but the Sawyers were. "The Bulands were related to us, not the Sawyers". "No, I don't believe we're related to the Bulands", "I think they were connected -- perhaps to the Ørke or Lipdancer branches". Etc.

²Op.cit., 444.

she had really trained her son well. At least he knew how to say, "shut up", in Norwegian.

Lars and Anna Marthal stayed a few months at Lee and then went on to Radcliffe, Hardin County, central Iowa, in order to be with two of their children there. Here they died, she, two years after coming to America, and Lars five years. Although they did not long enjoy the new country they died knowing that their children had attained success and happiness in it. They are buried in Radcliffe.

The oldest child to reach maturity in the Hatlestad family was Bertha Serina. She attended parochial school² and was a dressmaker and tailor before her marriage. She married John Frøland, who was undoubtedly from the neighboring farm of that name rather than from the one in the Bergen area. The gaard lay inland to the east of Hatlestad and about half-way to Vats Kirke. John and Serina came to America in 1887, going from Stavanger by way of England. From New York they went to Ossian, northeastern Iowa, and then to Des Moines where John did day laboring. Leaving Des Moines they moved to Radcliffe, Iowa, where John was a section hand on the Northwestern Railroad. In 1896 they went out west -- to Idaho Falls, eastern Idaho, where John purchased a farm. Later they sold this farm and bought one near Longmont, north-central Colorado.

Serina is described as a short, slender, active, energetic brunette. She liked to sew and spent her leisure time in crocheting, knitting, and embroidery work. She was also fond of gardening, especially flower gardening.

Both Serina and John died at Longmont, she in the hospital there, from pneumonia.

The third of Lars and Anna Martha Hatlestad's children was named Iver Christian (Kristian?). He came to America in 1881 with his sister Laura, following in the footsteps of his brother Segve who was already here. He came from Stavanger by way of England, landed in New York, and went to Leland, Illinois, where Segve was. Iver is the only one in the Ikdal family to become a minister so far as we know. He took his training in the seminary at Red Wing, Minnesota and was ordained in 1885 at Ossian, Winneshiek County, northeastern Iowa. In 1889 he went back to Norway on a visit and returned bringing two cousins with him -- Seri Syvertsdatter Sandvik and Segve Larson Amdal. Iver served Lutheran congregations at Ossian; then at LeRoy, Mower County, southeastern Minnesota; and finally at Jackson, Jackson County, southwestern Minnesota. Here he died from hardening of the arteries. His wife was Louise Stangeland.

Fourth among the Hatlestad children and the third daughter, was Sønneva. Before her marriage to Sakarias Torisdal she attended parochial school and worked some as a hired girl. Torisdal (also Tørsdal and formerly Tørrisdahl) was a farm not far from Frøland. Sakarias died about 1896 and in 1902 Sønneva and her five children came to America with Lars and Anna Martha as mentioned above. They also stayed at Laura's for a time and then went to Radcliffe, Iowa. Sønneva did not remarry but kept a home for her children. Her youngest daughter was murdered by a fiend when she was returning from her teaching near Des Moines. Sønneva was a good gardener and always kept a cow. She was well known for her fatose.³ In her spare time she liked to sew and quilt. She was a short, slender brunette, witty and fun-loving. In the late 1930s she was still living at McCallsburg, Iowa, not far south of Radcliffe in Story County.

Segve Larson Hatlestad, short, stocky, blonde, and curly-headed, was the fifth in the family. He came to America when he was only 15 years old and was the first of the children to come. He came in 1873 with a neighbor, Andrew Osmundson (Haven), who had heard from his rel-

¹Anna Martha was of medium height and a little lame.

²Note that this is the first time our tradition mentions anyone in the family going to "school" as such. By the 1880s were schools replacing the schoolteachers instruction in the home? or does this mean the usual preparation for confirmation?

³A kind of cheese.

atives at Leland, Illinois. They came on a sailship which sailed from Stavanger in the spring and took seven weeks to get to Boston or Quebec. After arriving at Leland, Segve worked on farms, was a buggy salesman,¹ and became an auctioneer. He took the last name of "Iverson" in place of "Hattestad". "Iverson" was his father's patronymic.

He married Ellen Jacobs, daughter of Odne Reinaa and Rebecca Bjoland Vibek.² She was born on her father's farm two miles from Leland, Illinois³ and lived there until her marriage with Segve. The young people set up housekeeping in LaSalle County and there the first two children were born and died in infancy.⁴ In 1883 they moved to Radcliffe, Iowa, and lived in town in a large white house now owned by Dr. Guard. Segve and Ellen had ten children but of these only one -- the youngest -- lived long enough to raise a family. Most of them died in infancy or when young. Ellen died before she was 47 and Segve when he was 53.

Segve Hattestad or more commonly, S.L.Iverson, was quite widely known as an auctioneer and had a number of other accomplishments. A daughter-in-law has a book containing the story of his life. He was educated in a Norway parochial school and was always a great reader. He taught Sunday School and was a good Bible teacher. He was a landowner, a merchant, president of the school board, and Mayor of Radcliffe for many years. Horses and horsemanship were his hobbies. He died in Radcliffe of pulmonary tuberculosis and diabetes. Mr. L.J.Tjernagel, deceased, a historian of Story County, Iowa, wrote of him as follows:⁵

"S.L.Iverson was ... the best auctioneer in this county and for miles around. I used to clerk sales for him and he sure knew how to handle a crowd. ... He was without doubt the best we ever had -- or will have in these parts. ... a good and great man who passes away too early as we look upon it. ... I have had the distinction to sit with him on a committee where it was our duty to settle some serious difficulty between a man and his wife. In this particular case we got it settled and they lived happy until death did them part!

"I honor the memory of S.L.Iverson."

The sixth child born to Lars Iverson (Bjoland) Hattestad and his wife Anna Martha Segvesdatter Sandvig, was named Laura. As a girl in Norway she sewed with her sister Serina who was a dressmaker and tailor. Laura was a good-looking brunette of average height who kept herself neat and well groomed. She was educated in the parochial school in Norway. In writing of her brother Iver we have already described Laura's coming to America in 1881 when she was 19. She worked as a hired girl near Lee, Illinois, and in 1886 married a farmer by the name of Andrew A. Richardson (from? Aardahl). They had four children. Laura was a good cook and a great flower gardener, and did lots of crocheting, knitting and embroidery. After Andrew died she married a widower, Emory Loomis Thorpe, whose own daughter married Laura's oldest son. Emory died in 1921 but Laura is still living in Steward, Illinois.

Syvert Larson Hattestad was seventh in the family and the fourth to come to America. He was of average height, slender build, and fair complexion. He received parochial training at school in Norway and crossed the ocean from Stavanger by way of England in the spring of 1883 (or 1884). After about two weeks on the water he landed in New York and settled at Lee, Illinois, where Laura was. Later he went to Ossian, Iowa, to be near his brother Iver. Here he hauled cream until he had saved enough to buy a farm six miles south of town -- across the county line in Dover Township, Fayette County. He married Marthille (Matilda) Sophia Stangeland, who was born nine miles southeast of Ossian to Nils Stangeland and Sophia Sherman. The marriage took place on an extremely cold night in January.

Syvert and Matilda lived on the Dover Township farm for at least

¹This may not have been at Leland.

²She was born on Bjoland, the farm in Skjold twice referred to previously.

³When Odne died his brother Sam bought the place and his son Irvin lives there now.

⁴Buried in the same cemetery as Odne and Rebecca.

⁵In letters to Jeannette Mather Lord.

four years and the oldest children were born here. They then sold to their cousin, Sigve Larson Amdal (see below) and bought a farm four miles north and one and one-fourth miles east of LeRoy, just across the line in Minnesota. It was in LeRoy Township, Mower County and consisted of 120 acres although it was later increased. In 1902-03-04 the family lived in town. Syvert was successful in business as well as in farming but they returned to the farm. Syvert's love of good cattle may have been an influence in this move. In 1931 he and his wife retired and again resided in LeRoy. Syvert was afflicted with the shaking palsy after 1940. Matilda had a cancerous arm but the cause of her death was pneumonia. She was in bed only five days. Burial was made in Bethany Cemetery, LeRoy.

The youngest in the Hatlestad family and the one leading the most varied life, was Martin. He left home at the age of 15 and became a sailor and fisherman before coming to America in 1885. His brother¹ sent him a ticket and he left Stavanger for England on July 4, 1885. Sailing again from Liverpool on the steamship Celtic, he had a calm crossing of ten days to New York City, and arrived at Ossian, Iowa, July 23 -- 19 days from Stavanger. He worked on a farm until 1890 when he went to Radcliffe, Iowa. His Norwegian parochial education was supplemented with training at Breckenridge Academy, Decorah, Iowa. In Radcliffe he engaged in the drug business and became registered pharmacist #5150 in 1896. In 1898 he married Sophia Mitchell, daughter of Newton Mitchell of Pontiac, Illinois. Sophia's mother came to America in 1849 on the ship "Favorite" which also carried Serena and Martha Aursland and Ole Nelson.² The wedding was held at the Mitchell farm home at Pontiac with about 20 invited guests present and a big turkey dinner followed the ceremony. Martin and Sophia took up their abode in Radcliffe but Martin made a visit to Norway in 1902. He continued in the drug business for a total of 20 years and then established a real estate, insurance, and auction business. Sophia died in 1940 but Martin is still living in a nice home in Radcliffe.

Martin Hatlestad may be described as tall but strongly-built, dark but blue-eyed, and curly haired. The list of his achievements is almost staggering: sailor, fisherman, farmhand, farmer, carpenter, pharmacist, merchant, landowner, real estate salesman, auctioneer, insurance salesman; President of the School Board; Mayor of Radcliffe; President of Radcliffe Commercial Club; President and Manager of Radcliffe Mutual Telephone Company; member of Board of Directors of Radcliffe Elevator Company; Director of Central Iowa Mutual Fire and Tornado Insurance Company, Roland, Iowa; Trustee, Our Saviors Lutheran Church, Radcliffe, and Financial Secretary of the same church; Justice of the Peace; Vice-President of Iowa Pharmaceutical Association, and member of Board of Trustees, same association for several years before 1912; member, Iowa Pharmaceutical Legislative Committee for six or seven years; member of committee of three to help draft Iowa Pure Food Law about 1908-10. In politics, Martin is a Republican. In his spare time, he enjoys ping pong, tennis, croquet, and checkers.

¹Probably Segve.

²See Chapter XVI for an account of the voyage.

CHAPTER XXIV

Which showeth that a fish story can be found even in the middle of a family history

The second offspring of Segve Larson Sandvik and Bertha Serina Sjursdatter Hundsnes was named Lars. He died as a boy. And the third child was Osmund.

Now Lars, of course, would have had the inheritance of the rich farm Sandvik (See Chapter II for location and description) but after his death the odelret passed to Osmund, the next in line. It should not be forgotten that this was only the "right" to purchase the farm, and not an outright inheritance of full title. Osmund had to pay his six brothers and sisters for their share (which according to custom, may have been set by a community representative). He agreed to pay \$3000 but later felt he could only pay \$1000 so Segve (the father) said he would cut timber for the balance. In connection with this dividing of a farm, it is said that a father may set aside certain parts for other children, not letting it all go to the oldest son. Further when a farmer dies and his estate is settled, two-thirds of it has to be sold or divided among the children but the wife can keep one-third. If the woman dies first the one-third may be divided up but the husband can keep the entire estate if he doesn't remarry.

Strangely enough Osmund did not live on Sandvik after his marriage. The reason was that he married a woman who had a farm of her own and they lived there. His wife was Olena Olesdatter Lindanger (pronounce "li nong"), an Ikdal first cousin, the daughter of Seri Larsdatter Sandvik and Ole Lindanger. As stated in Chapter II Olena inherited Lindanger but traded with her stepfather Johannes for the farm Espevik. Thus Osmund and Olena set up housekeeping on Espevik. This exchange of farms can only be understood by the following graph. It has been evolved after considerable study of the individual stories about the inhabitants, and of their dates of birth, death, and marriage, and of the dates and moves of their parents and children. (It was a tough problem to solve)

<u>SANDVIK</u>	<u>LINDANGER</u>	<u>ESPEVIK</u>
Inherited and bought by <u>Osmund Segveson</u> ¹	Inherited by <u>Gudmund Oleson</u>	→ Bought by <u>Johannes Lindanger</u> [with
After 1859(?) farmed by: <u>Segve Larson</u> ² <u>Lars Segveson</u> <u>Syvert Segveson</u> ²	Died & farm went to: <u>Oline Olesdatter</u> [with Traded for Espevik <u>Johannes Lindanger</u> ²	Traded for Lindanger Oline and occupied by <u>Osmund Segveson</u> ² <u>Oline Olesdatter</u> ²
About 1872 by: <u>Osmund Segveson</u> ²	And it was inherited by <u>Lars Johanneson</u> ²	Sold to (reverted to?) <u>Johannes Lindanger</u> ³
After 1877(?) in <u>folgahus</u> : <u>Bertha Serine Sjursd.</u> <u>Syvert Segveson</u> ²	Part purchased by: <u>Lauritz Nelson of Yrke</u> Balance inherited by: <u>Johannes Larson</u>	and then to (or?) <u>Lars Segveson</u> ²

¹Also lived on Lindanger according to one source

²Resident as an adult head of a family or his wife.

³Eventually sold to him by Lars Segveson and wife according to one source.

We do not know how long Osmund and Oline lived on Espevik before returning to Sandvik so we will consider Espevik a little later when it more definitely enters into the family story. It may have been less than even three years if we assume that Osmund had not yet completed payment on Sandvik and would run a risk of losing his odelret.¹ But it was most probably much longer.² In fact the best assumption is that they did not return until 1872 when Segve died. Meanwhile Segve and his sons Lars and Syvert must have continued to run the farm.³ At any rate Osmund and Oline returned to Sandvik and probably remained and raised most of their family there. They had a nice home on a good farm and all that timber which kept Osmund busy most of the time. For Oline there were the children -- eight of them -- and "great big children" at that, according to a cousin.⁴

Osmund and Oline, and especially Oline, were a very popular Uncle and Aunt to all their many, many nieces and nephews. "Awful nice people" and "always liked to go there" are the expressions usually made. Osmund had reddish whiskers -- there seemed to be red in the Sandvik side but not particularly in the Lindanger. He was of average build and "kind of set in his ways; but nice". Olena was nice-looking and not too tall -- "a little woman". Neither one bossed the other; and neither talked a great deal. "Olena was as good a woman as I ever saw", good-hearted, and always smiling. She would cook, cook, cook, and cook. She churned and made cheese. Potato cakes were on hand for the children and distributed with a smile. Whenever she went visiting, she would always bring candy or something. She was usually chairman of the Ladies Aid and many church meetings were held at Sandvik. It was also a favorite stopping place for neighbors far and near.

Osmund became interested in kind of a cooperative store at Skjold-astraumen. It went on the rocks and as Osmund was the only one who could, he had to pay the creditors. In his later years he built a fairly large folgahus -- the second on the gaard.

About Osmund and Oline's children we do not know a great deal as they all stayed in Norway. Segve, the first born, died young. Ole the second, was an even-tempered man who married Gurine (Guri) Gudmundsdatter Bakkevik.⁵ Bakkevik, like Sandvig, Lindanger, and Hundsnes, was said to be a little better than other farms. It is in Nerstrand and from our account of the Kallecods (Chapter VI) we may assume that it is on an island in Hervikfjord. Guri was the youngest child born to the mother Guri, who was first the wife of Ole Sortveit and second of Gudmund Bakkevik, by whom she had two children. Ole Osmundson Espevik(?) probably inherited Sandvik and he and Guri Gudmundsdatter may have lived there, as their oldest son is now located on the place.⁶ They had five children.

Gudmund Osmundson Espevik(?) was the third in the family. He married Anna Holgersdatter Bjelland. Bjelland is a gaard near the central part of the mainland of Nerstrand Parish and northwest of the church. Anna had been orphaned and so stayed with Anna Roalsvik (Mrs. Johannes) Yrke. She is a sister of Rev. Bjelland, manager of the old peoples home at Story City, Iowa, and is believed to be still living in Haugesund. Gudmund, now deceased, was "a fine intelligent man" who sold lumber and had a grocery store but spent most of his life as a commissioner of fish, i.e. a broker.

Fourth in the family was Berthe Serine⁷ Osmundsdatter Espevik(?). She married Lars Gudmundson Bakkevik, full brother of her sister-in-law

¹See discussion in Chapter XI.

²In my notes is a statement, the source of which is not indicated, to the effect that Osmund and his wife "lived on Espevik a lot".

³See second paragraph preceding.

⁴Excepting the oldest child, who apparently died young.

⁵There was a man by the name of Bakkevik who was related to Eli Larsdatter Sandvik and who became the richest man in Haugesund. Was his name Johannes, did he have a brother Ole, and were they Eli's first cousins?

⁶In 1941 only he and his wife were living in the big Sandvig house.

⁷A reminder to you readers as we go along: pronounce these names, "Bertha Serena" and "Sēna"; and other "i's" and "e's" in Christian names similarly.

Guri, referred to above. Lars and Sine are living on Bakkevik. Fifth in the family was Segve Osmundson Sandvik(?), who died young. Number six was Seri, who married Lars Holgerson Leiranger (no relation to Anna Holgersdatter). Leiranger was in Nerstrand, southwest of the church and extended to the Nerstrands Fjord on the south. Lars' parents, Holger and Laurence Leiranger(?) were from the second farm on Leiranger, that is, from the second of the three farms passing from west to east. The gaard supported 12 cows, 2 horses, and 20 to 30 sheep. There was one husmannplass, Kølvik.

Marthe Margrethe Osmundsdatter Sandvik(?) was the seventh in order of age. She married Jens Topnes from the farm Topnes, which was described in Chapter VII. Actually Jens lived on Oielaupe, which was on Topnes, but on another farm near Toftoy Post Office, Nerstrand. The eighth and last child was Osmine, now living as a single woman on Sandvik.

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Returning to the fourth generation of Sandviks, we find that the fourth child and second daughter born to Segve Larson and Berthe Serine Sandvik was called Seri. She married as his first wife, our old friend of Chapter VII, Bjoren Bjorenson Topnes, the man who refused to die. Seri and Bjoren farmed on Topnes.

Seri and Bjoren Topnes are believed to have had four children, of whom the oldest was Berthe Serine or "Sine". She married Gudmund Gudmundson Landraak. Landraak was an extremely rough farm located south of Bjelland and west of Nerstrand Church. Only two generations before, Landraak was so rocky and untilled that it was said by the farmers of Nerstrand that there wasn't enough room on it to throw a horse.² But the inhabitants gradually improved the place until it would support 10 head of cows, 50 sheep, and a horse.

The second child, Bjoren Bjorenson Topnes III went to America with his half-brother, Knute, and disappeared, as discussed in Chapter VII. The third child was Gurine or "Guri" who married Bardenius Hervik.³ This farm was located and described (Chapter VII). The fourth and last⁴ in the family was Sofie (Norwegian "so'vē"), who married a man named Klungtveit. Klungtveit is located in Nerstrand about one and one-half miles southeast of Sandvik.

*** **

Following Seri, among Segve Sandvik's children, was a boy called Gudmund Lars. He helped his father farm Sandvik before his older brother Osmund took over the farm, and then acquired and farmed Espevik. A glance at the chart of farms given above will show the previous ownership (by the relatives) of Espevik. Lars was supposed to marry Maren Karene Johannesdatter Lindanger, Oline's half-sister, and thus get Espevik but although he was given the deed something happened and the marriage did not go through. Of course this may not have been Lars' doing as we are told that he was a youth with "girl trouble". One time he chewed up a whole roll of tobacco while rowing a boat home from a courting expedition. And he did not find the right girl to share his life on Espevik until he was 36 years old.

The bride was Anne Oline Olesdatter Sortveit, oldest of four(?) children born to Ole and Guri Sortveit, and a half-sister of Guri and Lars Bakkevik, q.v. Families on Sortveit (Nerstrand) were considered to be a little better off than most, and were more like those on Bakkevik, Lindanger, etc. in this respect. Sortveit was located to the west of Leiranger and was a big timber farm -- perhaps bigger than Es-

¹See note 7 on preceding page.

²i.e., in order to trim him.

³There is confusion between this man and one by the same name in Chapter VI. It is said that the above Bardenius was also from Hesthammer. His son Bjoren, deceased, born about 1861, married a girl from Hervik, a cousin of Lars, Omine, Mandius, R.S., and Rev. Sevrine Gjerde of Minn.

⁴Was there also a Martha among the children?

pevik. It raised about the same number of cattle. Anne Oline probably grew up there, before her mother remarried and moved to Bakkevik.

Espevik is on the east side of the Skjoldafjord at its lower end. It is one of the four farms in the Ikdal Family History of sufficient geographic importance to be shown on the best available map of the country of Norway.¹ It was sort of a stopping place like Oline Sandviks and people were coming and going all the time, just like a rooming and boarding house. The farm was fairly hilly and was close to the sea.

Lars Segveson Espevik and his sons did a great deal of fishing, most of it in nearby Hervikfjord. In May they fished for salmon using two methods. The first was a trap consisting of two series of parallel fences, the channel between gradually narrowing, series by series, up to the end of the trap, and so constructed that it was difficult for a fish to get out once he had entered. The second method was to use a net. This had to be checked two or three times a day because the salmon came in from the sea and filled it. When this occurred the net was gathered up by the boat until the salmon could almost be rolled into it. Sometimes salmon were caught as big as 50 pounds. Such could be carried over the shoulders and have its tail touch the ground.

Before the farm work was done for the summer they fished for mackerel. After about 1900 it was sardines instead of mackerel.

A sardine fishing crew consisted of about 14 men, two or three big boats and four smaller boats. Using a water glass two men went out in a boat to locate a school -- one rowing and the other looking. A "find" might be the result of a whale's chasing the fish into the fjord from the open sea. To understand how the fish were caught it will be necessary for you to imagine a circle on the water, flat on one side -- something like a horseshoe with a line between the points. The flat side of the circle should parallel the shore. A small boat with a windlass anchored at one end of the flat side of the circle and the net was made fast to it. The big boat then took the net and subscribed the circle, which was perhaps 600 feet in diameter. To one side of the net were fastened stones so that it sank, while on the other side were corks to keep it floating. Of course it did not float clear to the surface and the position of the rope at the top side of the net was marked with kegs. On completing the horseshoe the big boat, which also had a windlass on the net, anchored opposite the smaller boat.

The sardines "smelled a mouse" and dove almost at once. When they could not get out they would come up and try and get over the top. This was the crucial time. The small boats would anticipate this move and as soon as the kegs settled a little, they would pick up the rope and the net, working from the kegs. The water glasses would be used to see where the fish were trying to get over. The men would work like beavers. Meanwhile the men at the shoreward corners of the net would use white boards, with steel points for weight to scare the fish away from shore and keep them in the net.

The sardines would have to be kept in the net for several days for them to get rid of the junk they had eaten. The net would have to be kept tight so that no fish would be lost due to the action of the tides. a catch might consist of several thousand bushels of fish. Meanwhile a factory in Stavanger would have been called and they would come out with a big boat and collect from the various groups. The men in the fishing crew would then go inside the big net in a boat and would use a smaller net to pull in a portion of the catch and take them out to the big factory boat. And thus the Norwegian sardine is caught and started on his way to the table.

After the sardine fishing came the herring -- in the winter time. Many used the same outfits for herring as for sardines but Lars and his sons used nets which they could set out in the evening and take in the following morning. The herring might be sold to buyers on the bigger ships, who would buy on stop.

In the Espevik household (as in other households) Lars chopped the wood for the house and the children had to carry it in. The women folk

¹Jernbaner, Skib og Biler M.M., i Norge, "Rutebok for Norge" (Norges Communicationer), Oslo, 1933, December.

milked and fed the cows. The men took care of the sheep and the horses. On Sundays Lars did the reading and the children sat quietly and listened. He and his wife were quite religious "as all the old folks were". On Sunday evenings the young folks, having no cars or buggies of course, met and sometimes danced on the roads. Music was provided by the violin or mouth organ.

School was held at Espevik in the 1890s. The pupils sat around a table and studied the Bible and catechisms for the first hour; then they had reading, writing, and arithmetic. Following this was an hour of singing. When the children grew older they studied Geography and History.

Lars died in 1905 at the age of 69 and Anne Oline, eight years later, aged 62. Both were of medium height. Lars was a township(herred) supervisor.

Of the eight Espevik children, Berthe Serine (Sine) was the oldest. She married Peter Mortenson Borgenvik, son of Morton and Serine Borgenvik(?). The gaard was located at the south end of a bay south of Espevik and was thus in that part of Nerstrand that forms a peninsula to the southwest. Borgenvik looked toward the water on the north and east. It was a pretty good sized farm with two farmers and some husmannplass. Peter died on Borgenvik and his part of the place was sold(?) to his brother Torger, who put his son Lars on it. Sine died in Stavanger.

Guri, the second of the Espeviks, married Holger Holgerson Leiranger, a brother of the Lars Leiranger introduced above. As a young man he came to America for a time; then returned to Norway; but came back to America again. Here he ran a threshing outfit in Minnesota and even bought a farm in that state. But he sold the farm, returned to Norway, married Guri, and settled down. So here is a case of a young man returning to Norway to live even after staying in America long enough to acquire the language.¹ We wonder if the United States failed to come up to his expectations or if Guri and Dan Cupid made the decision. Anyhow Holger and Guri bought a farm called Mjolsnes² on Finnøen, a large island straight south of Nerstrand kirke across the Bokn Fjord and the first island north of Talgo, with which we have already become acquainted in connection with the Melings. Finnøen was about two Norwegian miles across.

Third in the family was another daughter, Olava. She married Osmund Surensen Sortveit, from the farm by that name already described. Osmund's parents were Suren and Eli Sortveit. After he and Olava were married they bought Nortveit, located north and west of Leiranger. Nortveit was just a little place supporting a few cows. Although Osmund is dead, Olava still lives on the farm.

The next child was also a daughter, making four girls in a row. She was named Sigvalda and she married Torger Knuteson Borgenvik. Although Torger was from the same farm as Peter, they were not related. Torger's parents were Knute Knuteson(?) and Ragnhilda Borgenvik, who had a folgahus on the property. Since Torger's brother Knute got the farm, Torger went into business and now runs the store and post office where the boats dock at Espevik(?).

Gudmund Larson Espevik was the oldest son and therefore got the farm. Sometime after 1908 he married a widow from Vik, gaard located in southwestern Nerstrand.

A second son -- the sixth child -- followed Gudmund, and was named Lars Andreas. At the age of 24 he came to America by way of England, going from Liverpool to New York in ten days in spite of a storm enroute. Like many another he came over because of the better opportunities of making money. He knew of his cousins, the Hatlestad and Amdals but did not settle with them. He came over alone and went by train to Elmore, southern Minnesota because a friend of his was located there. After three months at this place he went to Mayville, eastern

¹Holger's daughters also know English, having studied it in school.

²One record shows their children as born on Leiranger however.

North Dakota where he met, and in 1911 married, Petra Petersdatter Nortveit. She was the daughter of Peter and Elesbet¹ Nortveit, who came from the farm mentioned above.

Lars and Petra settled near Thunder Hawk, South Dakota, a town on the Pacific Coast main line of the Milwaukee Railroad about 90 miles west of the Missouri River, and very close to the North Dakota state line. As any traveler knows, the country to the west of the Missouri is known for two things: Its "wide open spaces" and the fury of its storms. The Espeviks will always remember one of the latter -- the big blizzard of 1920, the worst in 33 years of Dakota History. Lars had gone on business by train to McIntosh, about 30 miles to the east. There were about two dozen men in the party. On the return the storm had become so severe that the train had to take a run before it could ram through the snowdrifts. When they got to Thunder Hawk they couldn't even see the station beside the track. Lars took the lead and led the men along the coaches until he saw a telephone pole. Then they had to go across a vacant lot to the town. Lars was picked up by the wind and deposited in the middle of the street. Once "downtown" he started across a street but after taking a couple steps could not see in any direction and came back. Snow blew right up his sheepskin coat sleeve. The blizzard was so bad that the farmers with doors only three rods from their barnyard gates could not chance going out to look after their stock even though they knew they risked great loss. The storm took toll of thousands of cattle and sheep.

In 1922 his younger sister, Oline, persuaded them to move to the Fox River Valley in Illinois. Their post office address was Millington. In the early 1940s they moved to a farm south of Leland, Illinois, not far from Baker, "the county seat" of the American Ikdals.

Seventh among the Lars Espevik children was Ole Kornelius. He died in infancy. The eighth and youngest in the family was Kaia Oline or Olene. Baptized June 10, 1888, confirmed Sept. 28, 1902, she came to America in September of 1909. There were two reasons for her decision to come: her brother Lars had come and found relative prosperity; and her boy friend, Andreas Leiranger, already in America, had sent for her. She went from Stavanger to Newcastle, England; thence by train to Liverpool; on a ship of the Cunard Line to the United States; and finally by train to Sheridan, Illinois, in Andreas' locality. They were married a little more than a year later.

Andreas Oskarson Leiranger was the oldest of the children born to Oskar Oskarson Klungtveit and Anne Karene Osmundsatter Leiranger. Although he was not related to Lars and Holger Holgerson Leiranger, Andreas had connections with several others already introduced on the Ikdal Family tree. He had two Aunts who married Ole and Lars Sortveit, brothers of Anne Oline Espevik. And his mother was a daughter of Anne Margrete Bjelland, whose brother Holger Leiranger was the father of Anne, wife of Gudmund Osmundson Sandvik. Andreas was born on the first of the three farms on Leiranger, running from west to east. The house was a big long two-storied affair with three big rooms.

Andreas worked on the farm until his friend Knute Siljar, who hailed from the farm just east of Leiranger, wrote from America that one could make \$30 per month. So in 1905 Andreas followed him to this country. From Stavanger to Newcastle he rode on the ship "Salmon", and then crossed England to Liverpool. There were lots of immigrants following this route and they were herded about like sheep. They were told when to go and when to stop, and woe unto the unlucky person who became separated from his group unless he was one of the few who could speak English. Leaving England, Andreas had a two weeks trip on a boat of the White Star Line to New York. His friends were around Sandwich, Illinois, but he got off the train at Leland, and hired out. In this country he went by the name of Andrew Leranger. In 1908 he took a trip to Norway to visit friends and relatives -- especially Oline (we assume) and his mother, who was still living.

After their marriage, Andrew and Olene² rented 120 acres two miles

¹The Norwegian Elizabeth.

²The spelling used in America.

east and one-half mile south of Stavanger, Illinois, in Nettle Creek Township, Grundy County. Their post office was Seneca. After four years they moved four miles west and one-half north of Morris on 160 acres in the same township. In 1935 they rented 250 acres in Sections 20 and 29, Elizabeth Township, Kendall County, and worked 80 more acres. Here Olene died and was buried in West Lisbon Cemetery. Andrew and his oldest son still farm the place.

CHAPTER XXV

Wherein we get an award from the King and sail the mighty oceans

After the Espeviks come the Tysvaers, who take their name from the "mother farm" in the parish of Tysvaer. Thus to speak about the Tysvaers we shall have to leave Nerstrand Parish and row across the Hervik Fjord or the Skjoldafjord to Tysvaer. Here are found such ancestral farms as Hundsnes, Kallecod, and Hervik, already discussed.

The founders of the Tysvaer branch of the family, as far as we Ikdals are concerned, are Karen Serine Segvesdatter Sandvik, sixth in that family and Segve Segveson Hervik. Segve owned Hervik so he may have been the oldest son. His farm must have been one of the two smaller farms on Hervik as we have accounted for the other two in Chapter VII. However he traded his farm for Tysvaer which was west in Tysvaer and lay on the east side of an arm of the Tysvaer Fjord, part of the Forlandsfjord. Tysvaer gaard had very good soil and raised ten or twelve cows, a horse, and about thirty sheep. There was some timber up in the mountains. Segve was a successful farmer and lived in a very big house. At one time he also owned a ship. He and Karen were of the "konditionaret", i.e. the better class of people, according to a minister friend of the family.

Segve Tysvaer was about five feet ten inches tall, and heavy set. He was a "big good-natured man" says one person while another speaks of his terrible temper. However the latter individual was one who, as a boy, was sliding down an icy hill one time on his sled and ran into Segve, knocking him over the top of the sled. We suspect that his opinion is based somewhat on this incident. (These contrasting opinions are indicative of the pitfalls awaiting the genealogist in any attempt to delineate character.) Segve died of consumption in 1866 just a few months after his friend, Ole Sevig, left for America.

Karen Serine continued to live on Tysvaer after her husband's early death and her third son, Sigvald, moved in with her. As to appearance, she has been described as "a good-looking woman", as big, tall, and fat -- the biggest of the family", and as "a big, stately looking lady". So we will let the case rest with that. She liked to read the Bible in her later years. She was still living in 1902 but has since deceased--on Tysvaer.

There were no less than nine in the Tysvaer family and of these nine no less than seven were boys. The oldest was a girl, Sine (probably "Serine"), who married Peder Torbjornson Klovning, son of Torbjorn and Metta Klovning. Peder sold Klovning¹ and then went to a husmannplass called Hoiland on Segve Tysvaer's farm. He worked it up into a very fine place and then sold it and bought Klovaa, which was formerly called.

¹Already mentioned as having been owned by Johannes Lindanger (Chapter III). But see discussion of the farm in the sixth paragraph following.

Erland, located in central western Tysvaer Parish.

The second oldest was a boy Segve who ran the store on Tysvaer with his younger brother Sigvald. In 1915 one of his sons was in the store. Segve also had a daughter in America for a time.¹ Next to Segve was Ludvig and after him came Sigvald. He married Dorthea Danielsdatter Apeland. "A' pe land" was across the Forlandsfjord and according to the map is a gaard of three farms. Sigvald and Dorthea moved in with Karen Serine after Segve's death. They also ran the Tysvaer store. Sigvald may have received the farm also, as in 1915 his son Sigur was on this place and he (Sigvald) gave a house on Tysvaer to his daughter.²

The fifth child born to Segve Segveson Tysvaer and his wife Karen Serine Segvesdatter Sandvik was a girl named Kristofa. The first pair of shoes she ever had were made by her Ikdal third cousin, Ole Sevig. She married Lars Sjurson Gjerde from a farm only twenty minutes walk from Tysvaer. Lars was a son of Sjur Gjerde and Lise Rasmusdatter Her-
vik, whose mother Ellen Karena Hundsnes was a second cousin of Karen Serine's mother, Berthe Serine Sjursdatter Hundsnes.³ Thus all of the Sandviks are related to the Gjerdes. Lars had three brothers in America,⁴ He was said to be a ship captain⁵ but he must have also lived on Gjerde as his wife was living there after his death.⁶

Stenert was No.6 of the Tysvaer children. He married Omine Sjursdatter Gjerde, sister of Lars, and they are said to have lived on Rygh, a Plass on Klovaa (formerly Erland), Tysvaer Parish. However we know that they moved to Gjerde and were still living there late in 1943. Next after Stenert came Karl, who bought Klovaa and sold it to Peder Torbjornson Klovning (Hoiland, Tysvaer), his brother-in-law. Karl then lived with Peder's. He died unmarried. After Karl came Gunvald, eighth in the family. He was confirmed with his fourth cousin Mandius S.Gjerde, Omine's brother. Gunvald came to America perhaps shortly before the turn of the century, married here, and may still be living here -- possibly in California.⁷ Finally the youngest of the family was called Berger, mentioned as the most competent among the children. He married Anne Svensdatter Ginsmervik, a niece of the wife of Sigvald (R.S.?) Gjerde, Omine's brother(?). They ran a store at Hervik for a time and then another one on Karsto in the southern tip of Tysvaer.

*** **

Karen Serine Tysvaer's brother and the seventh of the Segve Sandvik children was Syvert (see'vert). "He was a good boy", said ole Sevig respectfully, when telling of his boyhood's associations (about 1852) with his second cousin, once removed. Later on Syvert had a boat and went to Norland to fish -- taking others with him. He also was drafted for military service.

Syvert married his first cousin Marthe Helene Johannesdatter Lindanger, whose parents we have already discussed in Chapter II. She was the only one in her family who took special training -- that of dress-making -- as her parents were comfortably fixed. "Usually it was only the tenant girls who hired out", we are told. Marthe Helene wove cloth in addition to making dresses but did not do so much of either until

¹I wonder if this daughter could not have been confused with Sigvald's daughter mentioned in the sentences following in a footnote.

²Sigvald's daughter Karen was in America for a time, married here and returned with her husband to live in this house. Sigur was also in America at one time. In 1943 he was about 53 years old.

³The Tysvaers were also related to one, Laurenca, the childless wife of another Sjur Hundsnes. This Sjur was related to the Gjerdes and to Gudmund Hundsnes, son of Tormud Guttormson Hundsnes (Chapter VII).

⁴Rev. Sevrine Gjerde, Elmore, Minnesota; R.S.Gjerde, Fergus Falls, Minnesota; and Mandius S.

⁵This statement is also made about his son Sjur. Confusion here?

⁶Kristofa (or possibly her sister Sine) is said to have been in America, around Radcliffe, Iowa, for a time.

⁷Not listed in Los Angeles or San Francisco directories and he can probably only be traced through Norway.

after her marriage when she made all of her children's clothes by hand, even spun the thread. How many children did she have? Only nine. Although small in stature, she was a husky, strong woman -- one of those on whom people call when anything goes wrong. She was obviously a capable person as Johannes put her on his farm Klovning in Tysvaer Parish to manage it, apparently before her marriage.

Syvert and Marthe Helene were married in 1866(?) in Skjold Church and settled down to live in the big house on Sandvik with Syvert's parents. (Refer to the chart of farm transfers at the beginning of Chapter XXIV.) Here the first three children were born. Apparently after the death of Segve, Syvert's father in 1872(?), and probably the return of brother Osmund from Espevik, Syvert and his mother and family went to live in the folgahus (See Chapter II) on Klovning -- Løning in Tysvaer Parish. The name "Klovning-Løning" is a compromise, and is an application of that old proverb, which I have just coined: "When in doubt use both". Each name is used in similar accounts but the author of either account has no knowledge of the name used by the other. It would seem that they are both speaking of the same farm. However neither Olaf Rygh¹ nor the maps show Klovning but they do give Løning, located in central Tysvaer. There is one difference in the two accounts mentioned -- Løning is said to have been owned by Syvert's father but Klovning has every indication of ownership on the part of Johannes Lindanger. (See also Chapter II). Was Klovning a husmannplass on Løning? Or was it a local name not recognized outside the parish? Or was there a change of name? Well, I give up this one -- for the present at least.

The fourth and fifth children were born on Klovning-Løning. However Syvert did not like it there as it was so far from the ocean, and lost the place. He with his mother and family returned to Sandvik (where his mother lived) around 1877(?) and lived in the large folgahus there. Here the remaining four children were born.² Syvert supported his family during these years by working on the road and at odd jobs. In the winter and in the evenings he was a great hand to make wooden shoes and to make garden rakes, both of which he sold -- some by making trips to Haugesund. He cut birch timber; and went fishing as was the custom. In his later years he took contracts on road building.

When Berthe Serine died, her folga then being at an end, Syvert and his family were without a place to live. As they were not very prosperous they went to the home of a daughter (Sine or Hansine?) living on Landraak, a farm we have already discussed. Syvert was over 60 years old but he took his mother's old folgahus and moved it three English miles to Landraak. Here he tore it down and built it up again. Then he sort of homesteaded the place and landscaped it very prettily by using rocks, planting trees, etc.³ The county commissioners got together and turned in a record of the improvement to the government. As a result he received an award of 17 or 70 kroner and a sort of diploma, nicely framed, from the King of Norway.

Marthe Helene died on Landraak. Although she had once broken her wrist while fetching a pail of water, she had never had a doctor until just before her death. She was buried in Nerstrand's new kirkegaard. Syvert continued to live in the house he had built until he was an old man, being cared for by his daughter Johannesine. He was rather short and in his younger years had black hair and reddish whiskers. "A quick-tempered man but quick to forget it" and "not a great talker but a good arguer", are phrases used to characterize Syvert Segveson. He died on Landraak at the age of 83.

Let us now consider some biographical material of varying amount about each of the nine children of Syvert Segveson Sandvik and his wife and cousin, Marthe Helene Johannesdatter Lindanger.

The first in line was Berthe Serine or "Sine". As a young woman she learned to be a tailor by spending six months in Stavanger for that purpose. She went from house to house and also had a place where work

¹"Norske Gaardnavne", loc.cit.

²At least the last three.

³This may have been a part of the general improvement of Landraak described earlier.

was brought. She also did dressmaking. When she was 25 she married Peder Bjornson Landraak who came from the same farm as Gudmund Gudmundson, and which we have already described. Peder was the oldest of five children born to Bjorn Pederson? Landraak and Inger Smørdal. At home on the farm before marriage, Peder brought his wife there and they lived on Landraak until the early 1930s. They then sold the place to the oldest son Bjorn and moved into a small house on Landraak.

Seri Syvertsdatter was the second in the family but the first one to come to America. She came when she was 19 with her first cousin Iver Christian Hatlestad when he returned to America from a visit to Norway in 1889. As she stood on the deck watching the waves and thinking of the often-told wonders and opportunities of the New World, do you suppose she ever dreamed that she would become the mother of 14 children? -- the largest of all the Ikdal families. She accompanied Iver to Ossian, northeast Iowa where he was then located.

The man of Seri's choice was Halvor H. Holien who was born at Valdres, Norway, and probably came to America with his parents. Halvor homesteaded near Torrent¹, South Dakota, but was living in Ossian at the time of his marriage. He and Seri settled on Halvor's Aunt's place near Ossian or Calmar, but Halvor later sold his South Dakota land and bought another 80 acres about eight miles northeast of Ossian. This became the "home farm". It was about two miles from a place called Nortness. After Seri's death in 1927 Halvor purchased an adjoining 80 acres thus doubling the size of the farm. He spent the last few years of his life with his oldest son, Seval, near Ossian. Both Halvor and Seri are buried in a cemetery about seven miles north of town.

"Oh a sailors life is the life for me! Yo ho! Yo ho!" sang Segve Syvertson, the third in the family and the oldest son. So at the age of 14 $\frac{1}{2}$ he left home and took a boat for England. This was in 1886. From England he took a sailboat and after four months on the ocean arrived at the River Plate (Rio de la Plata) in southern South America. Here he skipped ship and worked on a German cargo boat plying the river for six months. The Plate is really an estuary about 180 miles in length and 130 miles broad at its mouth², lying between Argentina and Uruguay. Then he took an American sailboat -- a full rigger with three masts and squares on all -- to Calcutta, the metropolis of eastern India. From here he returned to Boston after a voyage of six months. Anyone who has read that immortal classic "Two years before the Mast" by Richard Henry Dana can imagine some of the experiences that befell our sailor cousin, Sig Sivertsen.³

Sigve next worked on vessels in the American coastwise trade plying such ports as Baltimore and Norfolk. One of these boats was a Norwegian fruit boat which took him to Jamaica and back. The largest vessel was a five-master. He was once shipwrecked. This occurred about 100 miles south of Long Island on a trip from Norfolk to Boston.

"The boat sprung a leak and went down so doggone fast we hardly had time to clear her", said Sig. "We rowed around for awhile but were picked up."

The next move was to New Orleans where he worked in a sugar refinery for a time. He then made up his mind to go to California but that much touted state came down with an earthquake about that time (1906) so Sig changed his mind and came to Chicago instead. Here he worked on Lake Michigan during the summer. Then in 1912 he decided to settle down for good by getting married.

Sigve's wife was Karen Carlson, born Karen Adolphsdatter Sandvik. She was the ninth of ten children born to Adolph Rasmusson Sandvik and Berthe Olesdatter Folkord.⁴ This Sandvik was considerably removed from the farm on which Sigve was born. It was three-fourths of a Norwegian mile south of Stavanger and only one-fourth of a mile from the town of Sandnes. Karen came to America at the age of 16 in the year of the World's Fair in Chicago, with a group of women. They came on a German

¹Could this be Toronto? or Trent?

²The Standard Dictionary of Facts, 564 (Buffalo, New York, 1922).

³The spelling is intentional, and is that adopted by him.

⁴Located nine and one-half miles south of Stavanger.

boat, the "Nraviah", from Kristiansand to New York. In the latter city they were kept under quarantine for one and one-half days as there was diphtheria on board, and by the time they were allowed to proceed to Chicago nearly five weeks had elapsed from the time Karen left home. She worked for three years in Chicago before her first marriage. Then in 1912 she married Sigve.

Fourth in the family was Stine Gurine Syvertsdatter Klovning-Lønning. As a young woman she worked in Stavanger in various homes and learned dressmaking. She then practiced the trade in Stavanger and even gave a few lessons. Stine Gurine -- (remember! Pronounce these names and others like them in this fashion: "Steeña Gureeña") married Olaf Gabrielson, the oldest of four children. His father died but his mother lived on a farm on a little island near Stavanger. After their marriage at Pederskirke, Stavanger, Olaf and his wife settled down in that city. Olaf, although a carpenter by trade, was a policeman in Stavanger for a while. He came to America in the depression following the first World War and took contracts to build houses, etc.

Johannesine, shortened to Hansine, came next. She did housework and knitted clothes and stayed with her parents on Landraak. When Syvert died in 1930 Hansine bought a piece of land on nearby Jorsvaad and moved his house on to it and lived there. However by the early 1940s she was living with Stine Gurine in Stavanger.

Johannes Syvertson Sandvik(?), sixth child, helped his father work on the roads as a young man and went fishing for herring in winter. He married Sofie Kristofersdatter Kallecod from our old friend, the farm Kallecod in Tysvaer (See Chapters II and V). Sofie was the second of four(?) children. She was not related to the other Ikdal Kallecods and was probably from another farm on Kallecod. She and Johnanes moved to Stavanger where he worked on the boat "Robert". He was eventually a pilot out of Stavanger with the Stavanger Steamship Company. In World War II he was lost at sea in October of 1942, the exact date being undeterminable.

"The hustler and money maker in the family", said his youngest sister when speaking of Lars Syvertson, the next in order of age after Johannes. Lars came to America at the age of 20 in the spring of 1901, the second of his family to come. The immediate impetus was probably supplied by the visit of his double cousin Andreas Nelson Yrke who had spent seven years in America and could give him word-of-mouth information. So Lars and Andreas' brother Ole went back with Andreas. Lars stopped at Ossian to be near his sister Seri, but after a few years here he worked on farms around LeRoy, southern Minnesota and near Minneapolis.

About 1906 Lars homesteaded near Crosby, county seat of Divide County, the northwesternmost county in the state of North Dakota. In 1908 he went to Upham, a town northeast of Minot where he threshed and dug wells. In 1911 Lars had the heart-breaking experience of returning to Norway on a visit only to arrive on the very day his mother died and not in time to see her alive. In 1919 he purchased the N.W. $\frac{1}{4}$, Sec.12, R. 158-80, Grilley Township, McHenry County, a fine farm lying between Minot and Upham, not far northeast of Deering. After 1927 his sister Osmunda and her husband helped him run the place. Here he died unmarried at the age of 57 and was buried at St Olafs Cemetery, Grilley Township.

CHAPTER XXVI

The South Dakotans

Of the six states that provide the dividing line between the Middle West-South and the romantic West, South Dakota has the happiest combination of characteristics common to both sides of the line. The Missouri River -- longest in the world¹-- sends its slow-boiling, muddy waters across the state from north to south to divide it almost squarely in two. Eastward lies a fertile and sometimes(!) fruitful farming region, for the most part well settled. West of the river, without waiting for an introduction, roll the hills. Covered with tall wild grasses or scattered desultory evidences of farming and grazing, these hills and then the more level uplands lead emptily through the Indian Reservations to the colorful Bad Lands and the forested mountains. Besides all this, South Dakota is the state where the grasshoppers grow eight inches long and eat fence posts for dessert, where the dust storms substitute for clouds and where every year is drier than the preceding one when there wasn't any rain at all.

But let us enjoy a look at the state through the eyes of the best South Dakotans in the Ikdal Family -- Albert and Margaret Dahl, a combination of very likeable opposites who have inherited and acquired the capacity to laugh the most when the obstacles are the greatest.

Margaret Dahl, born Marthe Margrethe Severine Syvertsdatter Sandvik, the seventh in the family, went to live with Sine on Landraak when she was eleven years old. She helped take care of Sine's children until she was fifteen, when she went to Stavanger and worked for three years taking care of children. Then at eighteen she learned to be a tailor (i.e., actually a maker of men's suits) and dressmaker. She then plied the trades both in Stavanger and at her home in Nerstrand. From 1905 to 1909 she ran a small grocery store in Muslandswog.² In 1909 Margrethe decided to come to America and get rich, then return to Norway and take up where she left off. Her sister, Osmunda, just three years her junior, had gone over the preceding year and had recently married. Her husband sent Margrethe a ticket to America. In November she left Stavanger for Hull, England, and from there took a train to Southampton. The steamship "Adriatic" landed her in New York seven and one-half days later on Dec. 3, 1909. Here the immigrants had to show the authorities 20 krone or \$5.00. Krone could be spent right in the station and Margaret's first American food was lemon pie. The first English word she learned was "upstairs" as that was where the immigrants were sent. From New York she took a train to Ossian, Iowa, and that was where Seri was living. Meanwhile Osmunda and her husband had moved from Ossian to Fedora, Minor County, southeastern South Dakota; so Margaret after five weeks went out there and worked at dressmaking.

Margaret married Albert Dahl at Mitchell, South Dakota, in 1913. He was the oldest of ten children born to Philip Dahl and Mary Wangsnes.³ Although Albert was born in Worth County, northern Iowa, near the town of Norman, his parents later moved to Winnebago County just to the west; and in 1900 sold out there and went to Fedora, South Dakota. Albert worked out and in 1904 and 1905 was a drayman. He helped build the Minor County Courthouse. In 1910 he homesteaded near Lovell Post Office, northwestern Meade County, western South Dakota. This county is the largest in the state and is certainly the only one where a crow can fly for 90 miles from one corner to the other and never see a railroad track.

Albert and Margaret Dahl lived near Fedora for ten years after their marriage and it was here that most of their children, that is, the first six were born. "Oh, I wanted twins the worst way -- and I

¹It is now recognized that the upper Mississippi, above St Louis, is really the tributary stream.

²This was a postal station, and was very possibly on or near Musland, our ancestral farm discussed in Chapter I.

³In "Sognfjord". (Sogn og Fjordane?)

almost had 'em, but they were a year apart", Margaret recounted in later years. They then moved onto three quarter sections (that's 480 acres to you Middle West cousins) near Seneca, Faulk County, in the northeastern quarter of the state. Here the seventh and eighth children were born.

In the latter part of the winter of 1928, the Dahls decided to try their luck in the more or less wide open spaces beyond the Missouri. The metropolis of Red Elm, population uncertain, was selected as the place to settle. To be sure, it was still a pioneer country out there. Red Elm was in Ziebach County, and to give you some idea of the people per square mile we may note it has attached to it the only county in the United States without a post office. But Red Elm was on a railroad, although only thirteen miles from the end of that branch of the Milwaukee which terminates at a town called, quite appropriately, Faith. The Dahls had plenty of that and they had the courage and willingness to work to back it up. So the whole kit and kaboodle, lock, stock, and barrel, set out on the new venture. Nine people of various ages, cattle, pigs, chickens, and the various paraphernalia common to movers, started on the long trek.

The first lap was to the town of Norbeck, the nearest town on the Milwaukee Railroad. It was here that the stock was to be shipped. While driving them to this point two of the bulls got into a fight and could not be separated. Nearby neighbors were asked to help but they lost the younger bull. The Dahls had planned on staying at a friend's house one night but could not get over to it because of an enormous snowbank. At another place where they asked to stay they had the measles. At about two o'clock in the morning they finally found an old barn and drove both the stock and the Overland inside. Nine weary and exhausted souls went promptly to sleep in the car -- and the cars of the 1920s were not as roomy as their successors of the 30s and 40s. The baby slept on mother's lap and, of course, the inevitable happened. "We slept 'til about 7", relates Margaret, "and ven I voke up -- I vas never so vet in my life. It vas like a flood. And den it vas so cold in the morning -- awful cold! And I froze!! Oh, that vas an awful vinter. It thawed in the day time and froze at night. D' roads vas so rough and then they would get muddy."

At Norbeck the party separated. Albert and the second oldest boy went on the train with two immigrant cars of furniture, machinery and stock. They had to have stock in each car in order to get immigrant moving rates from the railroad. The Milwaukee is an old hand at carrying Norwegians -- it is the second longest in the country and "... possibly more than any other, penetrates the Norwegian settlements".¹ Albert was taken across the main line bridge over the Missouri at Mobridge and duly deposited at Red Elm.

Meanwhile Margaret and six children ranging from one to fourteen years started out for Ziebach County in the old Overland by a shorter route than the railroad. Somewhere in the gumbo hills west of the Cheyenne Crossing of the Missouri, the road looked good enough to take off the chains. No sooner than they did so than "kerplunk", into the center of a mudhole they went and were stuck. Others had been going off to the side but Palmer, only fourteen, was driving and did not notice that. The oldest child began to cry and the two youngest ones filled the rest of the air with their wails. In this predicament Palmer was sent up to a house -- there happened to be one in sight -- in order to get help. But he came back with the report that the man had refused him. So Margaret started for the house. She plunged into snow up to her hips. She floundered around but didn't find bottom. But her customary good humor came to the front and gave her a good laugh and she fought her way out. The man turned out to be a Russian who couldn't speak English very well.

"Chtaw vi zhelaete?" he may have said.

"I'se in the car vith five kids, and ve're stuck", Margaret announced.

The Russian did not want to help but when he found out she was a Norwegian, he consented. When they got out of the mudhole it was so

¹Norlie, op.cit., 340

late that they had to ask to stay the night.

"Are you lousy?", asked the man.

"No", Margaret answered laughing.

"Well, have you got bedbugs?", persisted their benefactor.

On again receiving a negative answer he put them up for the night.

In due course Margaret and her six children joined Albert and the other child in Red Elm. When they got the stock unloaded from the cars a big blizzard came up to welcome them. That night was an awful cold one for the stock. The nine travelers, since their own furniture was not available, found shelter at Lars Tysvaers. With three other refugees from the storm and three of the Tysvaers, 15 souls bedded down for the night. Chairs were placed beside the bed and six slept crosswise of that with their feet on the chairs. Where the other nine slept is left to your imagination.

While located at Red Elm Albert helped build the Ziebach County Courthouse at Du Pree. Then he got sick and had to go to the hospital at Pierre for awhile. He took a backset and Margaret was sent for. With two men and a low car she set out on the 116-mile trip, most of it in mud, or, more appropriately gumbo. There is probably no gumbo in the world quite like the gumbo on the hills of the Missouri. It is unbelievably heavy and sticky. But let us laugh with Margaret.

"We had four men part of the time -- two with a team. Oh my, how that fellow swore! We'd have to dig the gumbo out from under the wheels. The horses couldn't pull it. The wheels wouldn't go 'round. Then we'd leave the road and go out on the prairie. I had to walk. And that mud--you couldn't kick it off! It just grew up on my legs -- way up!"

"Thru mud! Thru slop! Then it got dark and we were driving on the east side of the fence. Then from the prairie into the road. Plop!! Clean up to the running board. Oh my, how that fellow swore!"

Albert interrupting: "Ya! In that gumbo you couldn't go five rods."

"Five rods, pa!! You couldn't go five feet!!! When the wheels went around once, you were stuck. But that gumbo. I haven't been into gumbo since. Oh my, how that fellow swore!"

It took them four hours to cover one stretch of two miles. The whole trip took them from Friday morning at 10:00 until Sunday at 2P.M.

After two years in Ziebach County the new settlers -- there were others beside the Dahls -- got dried out (an ancient Dakota custom) and had to return.

"Ve had no vater and ve had to take the kids seven miles to get 'em vashed. And the cattles had no vater and ..." Margaret broke off choked with laughter when recounting the tale twelve years later.

"But we didn't have no grass either", said Albert.

"Ya, but the best vas ven ve had to go seven miles to get the kids vashed so ve could bring 'em home to Fedora !"

They shipped the cattle back on the Milwaukee and sent Palmer, the oldest boy, back with the hayrack. It was packed to the limit -- even the stove was stuffed full. He had three horses and a dog for the 300 mile journey back to Fedora. One horse played out on the way as it was very hot. Water was so scarce that sometimes the people along the road would not even let him water the horses.

The rest of the family, eight in all, drove the old car back with a trailer attached. The trailer was loaded beyond belief. There were 160 turkeys in three layers and five pigs. The pigs squealed every rod in every mile of the nearly 300 miles to Fedora. Then there were two crates of chickens. It is not written whether they cackled or crowed. On top of the live stock and considerable other paraphernalia rode two boys for good measure. Progress was slow. It was so hot that the patches melted off the tires.

"It vas all ve could do to climb those hills vith that trailer -- and all them kids!"

They had to stop and adjust the brakes before they dared start down the long hill to the Missouri River at Cheyenne Agency.

Back in Fedora at last, their farm wasn't ready and so the nine of them had to live in a room ten feet wide and twelve feet long.

"And I don't think we ever had so much company as we did then," Margaret related.

Two of the girls were sent to the neighbors each night. When the family was through with the table they set it outside. Then in again for the next meal. After two months they were able to move -- on two quarters of Section 8, Clinton Township, and this became the home farm.

But South Dakota has her own ways of testing the faith of the Ik-dal cousins who reside there. And it proved to be about as dry in the southeastern part of the state as in the northwestern during the drouth years of the early 30s. About the only thing that would grow was the thistle. The government paid workers to help the farmers put up the thistles for hay. For its pay the government took half of the thistles but finally burned them.

During the dry years (the Dakotan would here ask: "Which one?") the story was told, according to Albert, that the government agents would ride along the highways, and, seeing the stacks of thistles, remark:

"Why the farmers here don't need any help. Look at the stacks of alfalfa."

The government bought the hogs in the bad years and took the best ones. Then it shot the other hogs and gave them to the farmers. But these poor unrespectable denizens of hogdom had lived so long on dry air and thistle dust that they couldn't yield enough lard to be fried in -- and so the farmers had to try and buy lard.

"In 1932 there was so little there was not enough food for the stock", said Margaret. I didn't see how it could get any drier. Then the next year we had nothing. And the next year even less."

"In 1933, it was so dry that even the thistles wouldn't grow", Albert added.

"But we had to stay for there was nowhere else to go", concluded Margaret.

The government made other efforts of questionable merit in order to help out the farmers. Of course these relief programs had to have the proper statistics, and pencil pushers were sent out to collect them.

"How many pounds of lard will you need this year?"

"How many pairs of socks will you use?"

But the question to end all questions was when a worker asked Margaret; "How many shoestrings will you need this year?"

Still that isn't quite as bad as the lady worker who drove up the lane with a full view of about three acres of Dahl garden. Margaret was just coming out the garden gate when the lady got out of her car. Tomato vines and garden stuff were within a few feet of both. Nevertheless the very first question was: "Do you have a garden?"

We must not omit to say something of our family's experiences with the famous (or infamous) dust storms which Dakota drums up to plague her inhabitants. The Dahls saw the swirl of one coming off across the prairie one time. They all worked and got the stock into the barm. Then Margaret happened to think of her turkeys and ran for the turkey house. She had trouble with the door and had a terrible time getting it closed. Meanwhile Albert and the kids were screaming for her to come to the storm cellar with them. Then the dust storm hit and the pebbles in it struck her uncovered head so hard that it was sore for days afterward. They all made for the storm cellar. Margaret couldn't see but a few feet so she closed her eyes and pretended it was night. One of the oldest boys was in the house. They couldn't hear each other above the noise of the wind. He ran out to join them and left the door open. The rest of the meal they had been eating was so filled with dirt it had to be thrown away. The outhouse was picked up and went flying through the air and they later found it at their neighbors to the north. The wind opened both doors of the turkey house -- "and after I'd worked so hard to close it" -- and took out all the turkeys. Many of these were found all over the farmstead, dead. But most of them were never found and they had apparently been blown clear off the farm. It was rumored that the turkey crop over in the state of Iowa was unusually large that year.

Besides the dust storms there were the grasshoppers -- Dakotan's own brand -- so voracious they would eat cornstalks clear to the ground. Some species, following the Darwin theory, had started to develop spade-like front legs from their efforts to get at the roots.

But grasshoppers had become so commonplace to our Dakotans that

they were hardly talked about. Instead nature invented new pests to give the farmers more variety. The potatoes were afflicted with kind of a soft, grey bug one year. The agricultural department sent out investigators and some of them stopped at the Dahl farm to examine the new bugs and get them classified.

"Oh my, how we verked to have a garden that year. We verked and verked and verked and verked."

But there was work for Margaret even in those years when it did rain. One year it rained so much that the threshers -- eight men -- were on the farm for six weeks. In addition there were three members of the family. For awhile there were 14 to cook for. "And how they did eat!" During her spare time she took care of 1000 turkeys and 900 chickens.

Our South Dakotans are still living near Fedora and have many years ahead of them. The yearly turkey crops continue to be good. The meals continue to be big ones and are singularly well-attended. The efficiency and speed with which Margaret Dahl cleans a "couple a chickens" and whips up a meal for ten people, while carrying on a conversation, is something worth seeing. For an occasional diversion she may hitchhike to Chicago to visit her brother. Like others who have raised large families and had pioneering experiences, the Dahls know the real meaning of hospitality and generosity and are always willing to help those less fortunate than themselves. Cheers to our Dakotans.

CHAPTER XXVII

Which treateth mainly of the tribe Amdal and where they pitched their tents

Olava Osmunda Syvertsdatter Sandvik, the ninth in the family, was the fourth to come to America. Her first cousin Sigve Andal was back in Norway on a visit from America in 1908 and she planned to return with him. He had a friend along from America by the name of Østen Hetland. Sigve was called back to America four weeks ahead of the time planned so he left Osmunda to come with Østen. They left Stavanger Aug. 8, 1908, went to Hull, and then by train to Liverpool. From here the Empress of Britain landed them in Quebec in six days time. A train ride by way of Chicago brought them to Ossian, Iowa, where sister Seri was, the 1st of September. Apparently the long trip together blossomed into a romance for Osmunda and Østen (do not many novels have similar settings?), because six months after their arrival in Ossian the minister tied the knot that made them one.

Østen Hetland had come to America with his parents, Holger Oleson Hetland and his wife Inger, in the year 1867. They settled around Ossian, and Osten was working in a store there at the time of his marriage to Osmunda. The young couple first went to Fedora, South Dakota, where Osten worked in a store for two or three years, then in another store in nearby Artesian for one and one-half years. They lived for seven years in these two towns. The first and fourth children were born in Fedora, the third in Artesian. The Hetlands next moved to Ellendale, Freeborn County, southeastern Minnesota, and managed a store for about eight years. Here the fifth child was born. A cafe in Canton, South Dakota, kept them busy for a year and here the sixth child was born. They then bought a store at White Rock, South Dakota, northeasternmost town in the state, and stayed three years. Finally in 1927 they decided

that farming was better than storekeeping, and settled on brother Lars' farm in North Dakota where the youngest child saw the light of day. Osten died here and is buried in St Olaf's Cemetery. Osmunda is still living on the farm.

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The last of the eight children, fourth-generation branches of the Segve Larson Sandvik family, was that headed by Marthe(Mette) Margrethe Segvesdatter and Lars Bergeson Amdal.

Marthe Margrethe was the little girl mentioned in Chapter I as the one whose duty it was to sleep with Gamle Martha. As she grew older she learned how to weave, and made quilts and blankets with pretty designs of roses and the like. She married Lars and went to live on his farm Amdal. Both of them were said to have reddish hair and to be very Christian in their thoughts and actions.¹

Although there are Amdals in several parishes, Lars came from the one in Nerstrand called Indre Amdal (to distinguish it from Ytre Amdal and Ovre Amdal). To the south was the gaard of Kvam, where the children went to school. Beyond the forest and mountains to the north was the farm Ringe, but Amdal was the last farm on the road up from the south. By 1890 this road only extended in the opposite direction as far as Sandvik, about twelve miles. It now connects with Haugesund.

There was a lot of rocky timberland on Indre Amdal. The inhabitants cut hay on the strips of cleared ground. There was a small flat area nearby for farming and the farm was considered more level than many. Back of Lars' house and belonging to the farm was a big hill covered with timber. From the top it was possible to see clear out to the North Sea. There were three farms on Amdal and Lars' was about the largest of the three. There was one nearly the same size and the other one was smaller. On Lars' farm there was a husmannplass. Lars had 8 or 9 cows and 30 or 40 sheep. The farm would raise 50 tunner²[of what?] and 12 barrels of oats. Lars, being the oldest in the family, inherited the farm from his parents Berge Andreason Amdal³ and Marthe Dagskaar (Døskar), who then took a folgahus.

Most of the houses in those days were built of logs. These were sawed three inches thick and were put on edge one above the other. They were of pine and usually came from the place on which the house was being built. Every second log was reversed end to end from the one preceding so that a wall would go up of even height. Vertical pins between the logs would keep them from warping out of line if that were necessary. The logs were about eleven inches wide near the middle. (This was in the 1880s. By the 1920s the logs were double grooved and sawed on four sides instead of two, and were therefore of even width.) Studding was placed outside the logs and then siding was put on outside of that. One of Lars Amdal's sons (Berge) learned carpentry by helping to build such houses as this.

Part of the Norwegian household economy was the potato pancake. After the grain was dried and ground as described in Chapter IX, the potatoes could be prepared as needed. They would be boiled and then mashed in a kind of mill. In the Amdal family this mill would be made (perhaps by son Berge) out of a section of a log about seven inches in diameter and ten inches long. A three inch hole was put through the center by working it out with an iron used in making wooden shoes. An auger -- something like that in a modern kitchen meat grinder -- was made to turn in this hole. The potatoes were inserted in another hole

¹As evidence of the interrelationships between our forefathers of even the fourth and fifth generations, we may here footnote the fact that Marthe Margrethe took off the cap of Tormud Oleson Kallecod (Thompson), her second cousin once removed, at the ceremony of his christening.

²A tun was about like an apple barrel.

³Berge also had a son Anders and a daughter Kari. Anders married Malena Thorbjornson and had children: Bergitt, Elizabeth, Olava, Bergi, Anna, Hans, and Gurina in Nerstrand. Kari married Ole Dolva and had children: Sven, Berge of Radcliffe, Iowa; Edward, Olaf, Martha, and Ellen.

in the top of the log near one end. They were forced out the end of the log by the auger, all mashed up. These mashed potatoes would be mixed with ground oats and ground rye and put into the shape of pancakes about six inches in diameter, which were baked on a steel plate.

Lars and Mette Amdal, like the Syvert Sandviks and the Tysvaers, had nine children. The two oldest boys went to America in 1889 and 1890 respectively, so in 1891 the rest of the family decided to join them. They made the trip in July by way of Stavanger, Hull, Liverpool, New York City, Niagara Falls, and Chicago. Their ship was the "Etruria" of the Cunard Line and the crossing only took seven days.

The Amdals also went to Ossian. Here Lars and his two oldest sons purchased 107 acres of land at \$35 per acre in Dover Township, Fayette County. This was quite a ways south of Ossian in a different county and not far from the Turkey River. The place became the home farm for the Amdals. Mette died in 1895 and sometime afterward Lars built a little house on a farm of 27 acres across to the east and lived there. His daughter Carrie took care of him until his death in 1912.

Segve Amdal (or Sigve Amdahl) was the oldest of the nine Amdal children and the first to come to America. He came in 1889, taking advantage of the opportunity afforded by the visit to Norway of his first cousin, Iver Hatlestad. Their route was by way of Hull, Liverpool, and New York and the boat was the "City of Rome", 10,500 tons, a big boat for those days. Segve came to Ossian and worked on a farm.

Segve rented the Amdal home farm with his brother Berge from 1893 to 1897, when he got married and rented the place alone. His wife was Anna Severina Valvatne, who was born and raised southeast of Ossian. She was the oldest of twelve children born to John Valvatne and Karena Peterson. Sigve and Anna raised their family on the Amdal farm, which Sigve gradually increased to 200 or 300 acres before his death in 1927. He was buried in Stavanger Cemetery at Ossian. Anna then went to live with her children in Aberdeen, Washington, where she still resides.

Sigve Amdahl was the first secretary of the Nerstrandslaget. The Nerstrandslaget is a 'bygdelag', a society composed of natives from a 'bygd', that is, some particular settlement or group of settlements in Norway and of their descendants in this country.¹ The purpose of the lags is usually biographical and historical. Nerstrandslaget was the 45th to be organized. Sigve was also secretary of the society when their book Nerstrandinger I Amerika was published in 1920. Apparently Sigve was a real historian because, in spite of the fact that the book is chock full of information about people from Nerstrand, he often voiced the lament that the information given there was so sketchy and incomplete. Sigve's visit to Norway in 1908, already mentioned, probably added materially to the background needed for his secretarial duties.

Berge Larson Amdal was the second in the family and the third to come to America. In Norway he learned the trade of carpentry by going around with those who were building in the neighborhood. The pay was 50 øre per day at first, and later 80 øre. This was about 20¢. When he came to America and worked as a carpenter he got \$1 per day.

Berge came over in 1890 with his Ikdal second cousin John Yrke. They came through Hull to Liverpool and then on a 7000 ton boat of the Inman Line to New York, and finally by rail to Ossian. Neither Berge nor John could speak English and were scared. They had heard in Norway that in America they killed people quicker than anything. It was way in the night when the Milwaukee train brought them to Ossian.

"But we didn't have sense enough to get off at Ossian so rode on to Calmar", Berge related in later life.

The conductor put them off there and they had to take the next train back to Ossian, where they arrived long before daybreak. Here the station agent motioned for them to come inside the depot (to get warm).

"We were both scared", said Berge, "maybe John a little the worst."

"They're going to kill us now", said John.

"Well we'll have to stay", said Berge.

When the agent finally got them inside he set up chairs for them to sit on for the balance of the night and brought in a cot for him-

¹Norlie, op.cit., 436

self. (See also John's account in the next chapter.)

Berge married Margrethe Torske, the only child of John Oleson Torske and Guri Andersdatter Lervold. She was born in Military Township, Fayette County. She and Berge set up housekeeping on her father's farm but before long they rented the place and Berge plied his trade as carpenter for four years. In 1904 he bought 150 acres in Section 35, Military Township. He later increased this to 209 acres and bought two more farms: 140 acres and 60 acres respectively. In 1944 he and Margaret retired to the Norwegian stronghold of Decorah, Iowa.

The third Amdal child was named Marthe. In Norway she became engaged to a young man by the name of Thorvald Watland and so it is not surprising that he came to America (alone) about a year after she did. Dan Cupid makes fun of little things like oceans. After their marriage they moved into a stone house on Section 6, Beaver Township, Fillmore County, southeastern Minnesota, near the town of Ostrander. Thorvald hauled cream. The first three children were born here.

The Watlands then went out to North Dakota and homesteaded near the present town of Fillmore, Benson County, in the north central part of the state. Thorvald was a good manager and made much progress. Of their early life in Dakota, Martha wrote:

"Years went by with lots of work -- 20 miles to the nearest town. We bought several more sections of land and had more grain to haul -- with horses then. Not so now. Thorvald was tired of the long trips and sold out to buy land closer to Knox on the main line of the Great Northern. A short time afterward the railroad surveyed a line right through the land we had just sold and the town of Fillmore is a short distance from the home."

They rented out their farm near Knox for a few years and moved to town for better schooling facilities. At present (1944) they are living in town in the winter time and on their "ranch" in summer. Their cattle and sheep are taken care of by their son John who lives nearby. Thorvald is a bonded buyer of stock and also ships on commission. He goes to the St Paul market every other week.

After Martha, Bertha Serine Amdal was next in line. She married John J. Rendahl. They also filed on land in North Dakota. They were the ones who purchased the farm at Fillmore from Thorvald and Martha Watland. They are still located at Fillmore.

Next came Børge Severin, who went by the name of Bert Amdal in America. He stayed on the home farm at Ossian until he was 21. Then he went to Section 8, Twp. 154-71 (now Impark Township), Benson County, north-central North Dakota, and homesteaded on a quarter section. Here he was living when he married Florence Adams, whom he met at Fillmore. She was born in Ayrshire, a town in Palo Alto County, northwest Iowa. They continued to live on the farm for a short time and then ran a hardware store in Fillmore for about four years. Bert then bought grain for a few years and then ran the Farmers Elevator at Martin, Sheridan County in the central part of the state. After two years here he bought in 1927, an elevator at Carpio, North Dakota, a town on the main line of the Soo 28 miles northwest of Minot. He and his family were still living there in 1942.

The sixth arrival in the home of Lars Bergeson Amdal and his wife Mette Margrethe Segvesdatter Sandvik was named Lars Mandius. He went to North Dakota when he was quite young and filed on a claim, apparently not far from Fillmore. Meanwhile there was a young lady by the name of Ella Morgan who also homesteaded in the vicinity. She came from Mabel, Fillmore County, southeastern Minnesota, and was the school teacher at Fillmore. She and Mandius decided they would make a good team and went back to her parents' home at Mabel and were married. Returning to Fillmore, North Dakota, they farmed for a time and then went to Hingham, northern Montana. This is really out in the wide open spaces. It is not far from the Canadian line, as distances go in that country, and a lonely immigration and customs post marked on the map as a town (sic) of Wild Horse. The lone customs officer has about 2000 square miles of country to watch but its not much trouble as the smugglers have no trees to hide behind; although there is a building about every 15 miles -- a schoolhouse. But the dense population is no barrier to farming and

ranching and when nature smiles on the land, as in the first years after Mandius and Ella settled there, the people prosper. Mandius has deceased and is buried at Hingham.

After Mandius, as the seventh in the Amdal family, we may list Mette Margrethe. She also leaned in a northwesterly direction and spent her pre-marriage summers with her brothers and sisters in the Fillmore, North Dakota area. She thus came to know one of those rare individuals who occupy the first or a prominent page in the township and county histories and atlases of our fair land -- that is, the first settler of a town. His name was Olaf A. Sterry and he set up a store and a post office which later grew into the town of Fillmore. Olaf came from Wisconsin, apparently alone. He and Metta were married and then ran the store and post office together. Later they sold out and went to Hingham, Montana, and homesteaded. However they went to that area before Mandius and Ella.

The eighth child was Laura Josefine Larsdatter Amdal. She went to North Dakota when she was 16 and later met and married a farmer by the name of Clyde Ridenour, who was born in Missouri. He was a twin but there was also an older sister, making three in the family. The mother's name was Almeda. Clyde ran farmers' elevators a great deal after his marriage so he and Laura kept pretty much on the move -- up in Canada and so on. They now reside at Bowbells, North Dakota, a town northwest of Carpio on the Soo line not far from the Canadian line at Portal.

The youngest of the nine Amdals was Kaia Lovise, pronounced "Ka'ya Lo vees'a", more generally known as Carrie. She married Louris Severin Rendahl, more commonly, Louis Rendahl. He was the fourth of nine children born to Johannes Oleson Rendahl and Randi Joesdatter Feten. Rendahl was on a small branch of the Sognfjord. Louis was born on Section 7, Beaver Township, Fillmore County, Minnesota, and after his marriage continued to live there. He and Carrie tented for a couple of years and then bought the farm, which consisted of 160 acres. They later added an 80 acres across the road to the north in Section 6. The post office address is Ostrander.

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A look at the chart of relationships will show that we have now completed the fourth and fifth generation stories of the prolific family of Segve Larson Sandvik and Berthe Serine Sjursdatter Hundsnes. Of their eight children seven raised families. In the first, the Hatlestad, there were eight children; in the second, the Espevik-Sandvik, there were eight children; in the third, the Topnes, there were four; in the fourth, the Espevik, there were eight; in the fifth, the Tysvaer, there were nine; in the sixth, the Sandvik-Klovning-Loning, there were nine; and in the seventh, the Amdal, there were also nine children.

CHAPTER XXVIII

Wherein it is seen that many Ikdals forsook the farm and became contractors, storekeepers, butchers, bakers, etc.

Let us next turn to the fourth and fifth generation stories of the family Lindanger, formerly pronounced "Li' nong" but in America now called, "Lin'dawng er".

In Chapter II we mentioned that Seri Larsdatter Sandvik and Ole Lindanger had two children, Gudmund and Oline, born posthumously. The son, Gudmund, took the farm when he became of age but did not marry. One of Gunder Oleson Egge's (Søvik) sisters kept house for him and his folks. But Gudmund died of consumption and the farm passed to his sister Oline. (See graph of farm transfers in Chapter XXIV) Oline married Osmund Segveson Sandvik, her first cousin. We have already given Oline's story when treating of Osmund and their children in Chapter XXIV.

By her second husband, Johannes Lindanger, (See Chapter II), Seri Larsdatter had six more children: Maren Karena, Lars, Marthe Helene, Serine, Agnete, and Gudmund.

Maren Karena married Nels Johanneson Yrke and this introduces another important family, the Yrke ("Ur' ka"), three branches of which married those of Ikdal blood. We do not know the original name of the family as Nels was born on a place north of Bergen. His father's name was Johannes, his mother's, Anna Roalsvik.¹ Nels was the oldest of the children and Anna Marie possibly the second. The other children were Marthe, Andreas, Aadne, Johannes, Lars, and Berthe Serine (Sine) -- eight children in all. Nels got the farm Yrke by buying out the interest of his brothers and sisters.

Yrke was on the western end of the Yrke Fjord, an arm of the Sandeid Fjord. The Yrke Fjord forms the left arm of an almost perfect cross, the Vinde Fjord forming the right arm and the Sandeid Fjord the main stem. Yrke, due to its location was another place like Sandvik and Espevik where everybody stopped. It was a port of call for the steamboat from Stavanger and Haugesund, which perhaps accounts in part for its being marked on the above-mentioned map of Norway. It was called Nordre Yrke to distinguish it from another Yrke farther to the west. Nordre Yrke was in Skjold, about a mile from Nerstrand on the south, a mile from the Skjoldafjorden on the west, and a mile from Lindanger to the northwest. (Now! A descendant 2000 years hence ought to be able to visit the place blindfolded.) Lars' farm was the most southern of the three farms on the gaard.

Yrke was pretty hilly and the buildings were on a slope so steep that the road was almost on top of the house. Between the buildings and the water to the north was a small slope where the usual oats, etc. could be raised. Yrke was also more rocky than the average farm; but there were other advantages to compensate. To the east and south were mountains with a lot of pine and birch and a great deal was sold for houses and ship-building. There was a saw mill right on the farm. There was pretty good grazing and the farm supported 10 or 12 cows, a horse, and 50 sheep. The latter were marked in the ears by a certain shaped notch, as was the custom, and turned up in the mountains to graze. Some farmers used light metal rings with their names on them in the ears of the sheep. Yrke was a good fishing place and salmon, mackerel, herring, and brisling were caught. The salmon went to Stavanger and England and was shipped right away. Some of the herring was cured before shipping. So all in all the people Yrke "got along pretty good".

Nels and Maren Yrke were small in stature. Nels had a medium complexion and a big black beard. Maren read quite a bit and they were both "real, good Christians". She wove clothes and sent them out to be dyed. Nels was assessor and sort of county commissioner for his section of Skjold. He was quite active in affairs of local government. She died of heart failure while sitting in a chair. Nels passed on only two or three years later.

¹Kept the orphan girl Anna Holgersdatter Bjelland with her.

Nels Johanneson Yrke and Maren Karena Johannesdatter Lindanger had seven children: Johannes, Johan, Gudmund, Andreas, Seri, Lauritz, and Ole.

Johannes was the first of the family to come to America. He came in 1889 by way of Stavanger and New York to his Aunt Sine Bergeland's at Ossian, Iowa. An Yrke cousin came with him. Johannes worked around here for a few years and then went up to LeRoy, Minnesota, across the state line to the north. His brother Johan (John) joined him here and for two years they rented a farm together west of LeRoy. They spelled their last name "Orke" (Or'ka). In 1908 Johannes married Annette Engelson, the daughter of Peder Engleson from Finøen, and Serine Nelson. Annette was born three and one-half miles north and one-half mile east of LeRoy. Before her marriage she taught in the country school. Johannes bought 80 acres of land on Section 14, LeRoy Township, Mower County, Minnesota, and eventually increased it to 183 acres. This farm was located two and one-half miles north and one-half mile east of LeRoy. Johannes and Annette retired to town in 1940 and she continues to live there. He died in 1941 and was buried in Bethany Cemetery at LeRoy.

Johan Nelson Yrke¹ (John Orke), the second in the Yrke family, came to America in 1890 with his Ikdal second cousin, Berge Larson Amdal. Berge's account of the trip was given in the preceding chapter. John has supplemented this. They had to wait a week in Liverpool before there was a boat to accomodate them. The crossing took ten days and their boat was the "City of Chester". John was awfully seasick.

"If I had been given half a chance I would have gone back to Norway and lived on only one meal a day for the rest of my life."

In commenting upon the arrival at Ossian, John said:

"I've never been so scared in my life. I guess I was more scared even than Berge was. We'd heard so much about 'em shooting people and so on. Then when morning came we walked up town and found a man who could speak Norwegian. Then everything was alright."

John worked for seven years at Ossian for a man named Murray Nickelson -- "A 'Yankee" who spoke Norwegian better than the newcomers". He then rented a farm near LeRoy with Johannes for two years as told above, but John was on the place for five years. Next he worked on a railway building gang for two years. Finally he bought 167 acres of land on Section 14, LeRoy Township, and got married.

The lady who consented to become Mrs. John Orke was born Amanda Loraine Jurigina Asseusdatter Bergeland. She was the daughter of Asseus Oleson Bergeland and Berthe Serine (Sine) Johannesdatter Yrke, and was thus, through the latter, John's first cousin. Amanda was the oldest of eleven children of which the six youngest were all twins -- five boys and a girl. The parents came to America from Yrke where Amanda was born, when she was only about one year old. She spent most of her girlhood on their farm four miles northeast of Calmar, Iowa, and about nine miles south of Decorah. Before marriage she worked for a butter-maker at Calmar.

The wedding took place at the Bergeland farm home. It was a big affair with 200 or 300 people present. Afterward they settled down on John's farm three miles straight north of LeRoy, where they still reside. They have a very large, modern farm home, a big, modern barn, a fine herd of dairy cattle, and plenty of up-to-date machinery. The whole is crowned with hospitality.

The third child in the Yrke family was another boy Gudmund. As both older brothers had gone to America, he farmed the place (Yrke) and apparently his parents continued to live there with him until their death. Gudmund's wife was his Ikdal first cousin Seri Eriksdatter Lindanger. She was the second of eight children born to Erik Erikson Lindanger II and his wife Serine Johannesdatter Lindanger, of whom more anon. Gudmund's oldest son came to America in 1923 or 4, stayed ten years and returned. His second son came about 1925 and remained. Gud-

¹Note that in the Yrke family both the father's father and the mother's father were named "Johannes". In order to conform to the custom of naming sons, both of the older sons should have been called "Johannes". Johan was a natural solution to avoid confusion.

mund and Seri are still living on Yrke, Skjold.

After Gudmund was a fourth son, Andreas, who came to America in 1893. He came to Ossian, Iowa, and worked with John for Murray Nickelson, continuing on there after John left. Later he went up north into Minnesota and worked in the lumber camps. In the fall of 1900 Andrew Orke (i.e. Andreas Yrke) went to Norway on a visit, returning in the spring of 1901 with his brother Ole (Ola) and double cousin Lars Syvertson Sandvik. He spent some more time around Ossian and then went west. He acquired a farm in Washington with a lot of timber on it but did not farm it. He made his home in Portland, Oregon, took contracts for lathing, and hired men to work for him. In 1912 he married a Swedish girl by the name of Marion Aakerstom. They now live on a fruit farm at Eagle Grove, not far from Portland, and keep Holstein cows.

A girl at last! Seri Nelsdatter Yrke was the fifth in the family. She did not marry and remained at home with her folks on Yrke. When her mother Maren Karine died she kept house for Nels until his death. She then started working for a store in Skudesneshavn, a town at the southern end of the island Karmøyen, a large island lying southwest of Haugesund and Tysvaer. She is still working there.

The sixth arrival in the Yrke household was a boy named Lauritz. He bought part of his Uncle Lars Johanneson Lindanger's farm and built a house on it. His wife was Karine Hendriksdatter Strom (Straum) probably from the gaard by that name on the west side of the Skjoldastrauen. Karine's father, Hendrik Hendrikson came from a small husmannplass on Lindanger and it is possible that Karine was born there. Lauritz and Karine are still living on Lindanger.

Ole Nelson Yrke was the sixth boy and the youngest of the seven Yrke children. We have mentioned his coming to America with Andreas and Lars Sandvik in 1901. He worked for his brother John for a summer and then on a nearby farm for a summer. His next move was to go with several from LeRoy, including Ed Stangeland (Marthille's brother), to a place in northwestern North Dakota quite a ways west of Deering. Here he homesteaded on a quarter section for a few years. Returning to Minnesota he worked around LeRoy¹ and in a cement mill in Minneapolis. He has been out of touch with the rest of the family for a number of years but when last heard from was in Detroit. He had not married prior to 1915(?) so there is the probability that he has not sailed "the stormy seas".

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After the family of Maren Karena Johannesdatter Lindanger and Nels Yrke, there follows, in its proper order, the family Lindanger of Lars Johanneson, brother of the first, and his wife Anne Marie Johannesdatter Yrke, sister of the second.

Lars Johanneson Lindanger, the fourth in his family, inherited² the farm after his father as we may see from the graph of farm transfers in Chapter XXIV. Lars bought the farm at the time of his marriage to Anna Marie, sometimes called Marthe. We have already mentioned her family when speaking of her brother, Nels Yrke.

Although he licked the kids once in a while, Lars Lindanger was a quiet man by nature. His only diversion was to take Marie to the city (Haugesund or Stavanger) for a visit with their children. Lars was generous and helped his relatives in financial matters. He held some office in the township. In appearance he was dark complexioned and of average height. Marie was full of fun and a very fast worker -- always on the jump. She did quite a lot of knitting. She was dark, and about average in stature; stocky, but not fleshy. After their marriage, both she and Lars spent the rest of their lives on Lindanger. He was the first to go, dying of cancer when about 65 years old. Burial was at Skjoldastrauen. Marie then kept house for her son Johannes for 34

¹There is some evidence that he may have retained an interest in his Dakota land as John last saw him when he came back on a visit from that state.

²That is, inherited the right to buy it.

years, and then suffered a stroke. This kept her in bed for the remaining four years of her life, until her death at the age of 92½.

Lars and Marie Lindanger had nine children: Johannes, Seri(Sigrid), Anna, Anna Gurine, Johannes, Marthe, Laura Josefine, Lena Marie, and Karoline Margrethe.

The first Johannes, died of scarlet fever when only two years old. This was before the birth of Seri, who, when she became a young woman, went to Stavanger to learn the trade of tailor and dressmaker. After her apprenticeship she practiced in Stavanger for a time but returned home and married a few years later. Her husband was a Stavanger shoemaker named Kristen Holgerson Østenstad. He was a son of Holger and Britta Østenstad who were very probably from the farm Østeinstad situated between Lindanger and Ikdal. Sigrid and Kristen set up housekeeping in Stavanger and their first three children were born there. Kristen had quite a good sized store with five or six men and some girls working for him. The girls would sew and the men put on the soles, etc. This was before the shoe factories were started.

Kristen's health declined and the family moved to Skjoldastrauen. Here they bought a store and a little piece of land on which they kept two or three cows. However Kristen did not live long after this. He was buried in Skjold. Sigrid kept on with the store. She died here and was buried in Skjold.

The third Lindanger was a girl named Anna. She worked some in Haugesund and then married Jakob Jakobson Svenelid, the son of Jakob and Ingebjør Svenelid. The latter lived to be 104 years old.¹ Young Jakob helped his father on the farm before his marriage and bought cattle. He and Anna took over the farm and his parents moved onto another place. After a few years however, Jakob and Anna moved to Haugesund and bought a butcher shop. He continued to buy cattle and also bought enough to supply his own shop.

The fourth Lindanger was another girl, Anna Gurine. Like her sister Seri and a number of her cousins, Anna Gurine went to Stavanger as an apprentice dressmaker and practiced the trade there. She met and married Peder Tønnison Soiland, who was born in Stavanger. He was a machinist on a ship both before and after marriage. Anna Gurine continued her practice of dressmaking and also ran a hotel. She still lives in Stavanger.

The second Johannes was the "middleman" in the Lars Johanneson Lindanger family -- there were four children before him and four after him. Johannes got the farm and lived there with Anna Marie, his mother. For twelve years Johannes was the man who decided on the justice of the taxes. He must have had the wisdom and understanding of Solomon because it is stated on good authority that he was a very popular man. About a year before his mother's death he sold Lindanger to Sigrid's son, Bjarne, but "took off a little piece of land" and kept the right to room and board with Bjarne.

The sixth in the family, Marthe, was the only one to come to America. As a young woman she attended a commercial school in Skjoldastrauen for eight months. This was an Amtsskalen which moved to a different place each year. She then went to Stavanger and worked in a butcher shop; and then in a department store for eleven years. By this time she had saved enough to buy a round trip to America but at the last minute decided to buy only a one-way ticket.

Marthe came over with her cousin, Cornealius Orke, in 1911. From Stavanger she went to Newcastle, thence by train to Liverpool, and took the "Empress of Ireland" to Quebec. From Quebec there was a train trip to Chicago and then a train ride on the Milwaukee to Calmar, Iowa, where there were other cousins living at the time.

"I was so crazy to see Calmar I could hardly wait", she related 33 years later. "But I got quite a disappointment."

Martha got a job as companion and housekeeper with the Sandhaug family northwest of town and still has it. She and Emma Sandhaug have been inseparable companions from the time of her arrival.

Lars and Marie Lindanger's seventh child was a girl named Laura

¹In 1934. Her picture at the age of 102 is a family treasure.

Josefine, She went to the city like her sisters, and was employed in a bathhouse before her marriage to Peder Aadson Hagen. Hagen was in Hjelmeland but Peder was working in a butcher shop in Stavanger when they married. He later became the manager of the city's butcher shop. They are still living in Stavanger.

Lena Marie Larsdatter Lindanger, the eighth in line, worked in Svenelid's butcher shop in Haugesund -- it seems that the girls usually did the weighing in Norway. She met and married Halvor Urrang, a man from Bommeloen (Bomloen), a large island to the northeast of the Haugesund peninsula. Halvor was a building contractor -- an international building contractor -- even before his marriage. He built houses in America and in the Union of South Africa (Johannesburg?). After the depression he went back to the Union of South Africa as he could see no hope in Norway. Then good times set in and he returned to Norway and shortly thereafter bought a lumber yard. He and Lena Marie are still living in Haugesund.

Karoline Margrethe Larsdatter Lindanger was the youngest of the group. She stayed at home before marriage and was married there to Severin Hetland. Severin had learned the bakers trade in Haugesund and the couple lived there for a short time. They then moved to Skjold-astraumen and built a combination home and bakery. This enterprise has brought them prosperity.

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Stepping back a generation, let us recall that the next fourth generation Lindanger child was Marthe Helene Johannesdatter. She married her first cousin, Syvert Segveson Sandvik, and they and their children have already had their biographies recorded in Chapters XXV, XXVI, and XXVII.

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After Marthe Helene, as number 6, came Serine Johannesdatter Lindanger. She married Erik Erikson Lindanger II who came from the other part of Lindanger, that is, from the northwest part of the gaard. His house was the second one away from Serine's brother Lars. Erik had dark hair and was of average size. Serine was a tall slender woman. She was a good singer, and was perhaps more religious than the others in her family. Both she and Erik were still living in 1914 but they have since deceased. They had eight children: Erik, Seri, Johannes, Gudmund, three who died of diphtheria when very young, and Emil, the youngest.

The name of Erik Lindanger, the oldest, was coupled in romance with that of his first cousin, Marthe Lindanger. But Fate, the mysterious, decreed otherwise; Marthe went to America and neither she nor Erik ever married. Erik was a bachelor with his brother Johannes on his father's farm, but in a different house.

Seri, Erik's sister, married her first cousin, Gudmund Nelson Yrke, and their lives were commented upon in the early part of the chapter. Johannes, the next, was a bachelor on Lindanger with his older brother Erik as just mentioned.

Before me as I write is a postcard showing a picture taken somewhere on the great plains of the state of Montana. Occupying the greater part of the picture is a homestead shack about nine feet across the front and possibly five feet deep, with a roof that is nearly flat. The door in front is open and serves the purpose of a window as well as a door. Over this is a rifle and nearby is a pistol, both hung on nails. To the left hang two traps and a saw, and under the pistol hang two enormous white jack rabbits. At the right of the door is a sheep skin. A few feet in front of the shack and to the right of the door, is a narrow bench bearing two galvanized pails, a wooden pail, and a wooden drum. In front of the door stand two men in overalls and shirt sleeves. One holds a skillet and a big hunting knife. The second has a cap, a mustache and a humorous look, and is grinding coffee. He is Gudmund Erickson. At the left corner of the shack is a dark, curly-headed youth with his hands over a washboard and a tub of dirty clothes, which rests

on a short bench. He is Emil Erickson. A couple dogs and 150 miles of treeless plains complete the picture.

A wise Chinese has said that one picture is worth 10,000 words. We hope so, because this picture is practically the only knowledge we have of Gudmund Erickson Lindanger and his younger brother Emil. It was sent by Gudmund to his double cousin, Lars Sandvik, supposedly from the vicinity of Great Falls in the early 1900s.¹ However we do know one important fact: Emil fought on the American side in World War I and returned to Norway afterward.

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Seventh among the fourth generation Lindangers was Agnete (Ag net'a). She married Sigve Sigveson Stølsvik, sailor and adventurer. Sigve's folks were very nice people and lived on Stølsvik, located in the northwest corner of Nerstrand between the ancestral farms of Sandvik and Kreppene (Skjold). After Sigve and Agnete were married they established their home in Stavanger, although he continued to follow the sea.² Agnete was tall, slim, and dark. She inherited the Lindanger pride and always saw to it that her children were well dressed even though the family coffers were not always filled. She did this largely by her own industry, remaking the clothes herself. The Stølsviks were the "city cousins" to their "country cousins" in Nerstrand; the latter, of course, as is true the world over, being a little critical of citified clothes and such 'toney' customs as eating berries with pins, etc. Agnete was sometimes teased about the latter.

Sigve's life as a sailor caused him to spend a great deal of time on the west coast of North America around the turn of the century. His family came to America to be nearer to him. Josefine, the second(?) child, came first. Then in 1909 Agnete and her oldest(?) daughter Lena came from Norway to Seattle, Washington. Here Agnete ran a hotel. Sigve died in a fire and Agnete died in Seattle shortly before Christmas 1915. Her daughter Lena was with her at the time.

Of the six Stølsvik children, two died in infancy. Lena married after her mother's death, G.E. Bach, and they have lived (1944) in Richmond, California, for the last 20 years. Richmond is just across the bay from San Francisco. Josephine married Albert Rasmussen and lives in Westport on the extreme western coast of Washington near the base of the Olympic peninsula. Of the two Stølsvik boys Sigvald, the older, was a west coast sailor like his father. He died in Port Townsend, Washington, at the entrance to Puget Sound, in 1932. Johannes, the younger, was drowned.

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The youngest of the eight, fourth generation Lindangers was Gudmund Johanneson Lindanger. He was a large, heavy fellow with reddish whiskers and complexion. Gudmund was a sailor both before and after his marriage, which took place before he left Lindanger. He and his wife³ lived in Stavanger, although, of course, he was on the ocean most of the time. They had four children.⁴

¹However my letter to Great Falls, and a personal inquiry in the vicinity, have both been unproductive.

²We have seen in Chapter II that Agnete was living with her parents on Lindanger at the time of their death.

³Marthe Helene (Gudmund's sister) and her oldest daughter used to associate with her.

⁴According to one tradition two of these were daughters, married, and now living in Chicago. I can find no confirmation of this.

CHAPTER XXIX

We see that even Ripley is forced to recognize the Ikdal Family in his "Believe It or Not"

In Chapter II we outlined the beginnings of the Velde branch of the Ikdal Family. We listed the eight children born to Eli Larsdatter Sandvik and Gudmund Torgerson Lindanger (Velde) as Sigrid, Marthe Serine, Laurentse, Torger, Osmund, Anne Karine, Eli Serine, and Lars who died as a child.

Sigrid apparently died young as there is no further record of her.

Marthe Serine married a man from near Sandeid, a parish northeast of Vats at the head of the Sandeid Fjord. His name was Jens Jonson Haarde. Haarde was located in a valley and there were mills between it and Stumo.¹ An average gaard, Haarde raised 7 cows and 20 sheep. There were four farms on the place. After his father's death, Jens, as the oldest child, inherited his farm and he and Marthe Serine lived there. All eight of their children were born on Haarde: Jon, Gudmund, Jens, Serine, Lars, Ole, Osmund, and Gurine.

Marthe Serine was a very active and popular woman in spite of a short stature and a slight hump on her back which caused her to lean over. She had no hired girl and her large family kept her very busy. She was quite a "handy man about the house", spun, made stockings, and was a good cook. Although her children were nearly all boys she taught them (especially Jon and Lars) to do such things as make stockings and her personality was such that they were glad to do things for her. She made friends easily and, like her mother, was one of the leading women of her parish, active in the Ladies Aid, etc. She was a good Christian and quiet and pious by nature.

As we think of all the spinning, knitting, etc., accomplished by the Norwegian housewife, it is interesting to consider the type of light she had. It consisted of a low bowl-like container partially filled with fish oil hung up at some convenient spot. A wool thread was placed in the oil and over the edge of the container with the flame at the outside end of the thread. This was the light and we can well believe the statement that there was very little light in the house. Fire was struck with flint and tinder and it was a hard job to get one started. If it went out it was less trouble to borrow fire from the neighbors.

Jens lived some time longer than Marthe Serine. He was of average height and build. A good Christian and very pious, he had an easy, good way of expressing himself in religious meetings. Jens made wooden shoes for the family and they all wore them. He continued to live on Haarde in the later years of his life and died there when about 55 or 65² years old. Both he and his wife are buried at Sandeid.

Jon Jenson Haarde, the oldest son, came to America in June of 1880 at the age of 22. His Uncle Osmund Veldey sent him the ticket and he made the Veldey home and store his first stop. This was at Sandnes, Yellow Medicine County, southwestern Minnesota, about a mile from the present town of Hanley Falls. John Hardy (Jon Haarde) started out by doing carpenter work and then he and his brother Gudmund bought out the Veldey store. Around 1884 the railroad arrived at Hanley Falls and the brothers, at their Uncle's suggestion, built in that location and transferred their stock of general merchandise.

In 1884 John also married Tilla Hanson, the sixth of ten children (six girls and four boys) born to Tønnes Hanson Gilje and Anne Johnsdatter of Hoiland Sogn,³ Rogaland, Norway. Concerning the Gilje family more will be said in Chapter XXXII. Tilla was born in Yellow Medicine County. In 1892 John and Gudmund sold out the store in Hanley Falls and John and Tilla went up to McKinley in the Iron Range country of

¹Probably the adjacent farm.

²According to the source for this age, only two sons were in western Minnesota at the time in which case it would have to be before 1890. This would cast doubt on Jens' birthdate being in 1835.

³The one marked on the maps just south of Sandnes.

northeastern Minnesota to look over the prospects there. However in three months they returned and started up another store and also had the Post Office. Then in 1902 they moved to Minneapolis where John followed his carpenter trade. Again returning to Hanley in 1905 they operated a furniture and undertaking establishment for a few years. Finally John went back to carpentering and continued at this work until 1926 when he suffered a stroke. This left him an invalid until his death and burial in Hanley Falls three years later. Tilla is still living.

Gudmund Jenson Haarde, the second in the family, was the first of the many nieces and nephews to come to America on tickets supplied by their Uncle Osmund Veldey. As a young man in Norway Gudmund worked for his Uncle Paul Urdal but he went home when Jon told him the tickets had come for America. This was in 1878 and he was about 17 years old. Jens went with his son to Stavanger and gave him \$1.25 as a parting gift. Gudmund stayed overnight at Stavanger and then took a boat to Hull, a trip which took from morning until noon of the following day. Then by railway to Liverpool where he stayed a whole week. The emigrants were like a flock of sheep when looking for their trunks. Gudmund stayed too long at one place and the agent picked up the rest of the bunch, leaving him alone. Gudmund was badly scared. However he was lucky enough to find a man who spoke Norwegian and so he got track of the others. Their boat belonged to the White Star Line and was half sail, half steam. He landed in New York and went by train clear to Marshall, Lyon County, southwestern Minnesota, a point about 20 miles southwest of Veldey's. The train trip alone took a week's time. Gudmund completed his journey without getting either seasick or homesick.

Gudmund Hardy worked for his Uncle Osmund in his store and post office, and in stores in Granite Falls and in Hanley Falls. We have already told of his moving the Veldey store from Sandnes to Hanley with his brother John. Gudmund was storekeeper and postmaster in Hanley. It was here that he met and married Mary McKinley, the eighth of ten children born in the province of Ontario, Canada to Duncan and Annie McKinley. In 1870 the McKinley family came from Lanark, a town in Ontario about 50 miles southwest of Ottawa, to Duluth, Minnesota. After two years here they moved to Swan Lake, Minnesota, but returned to Duluth. From there they came to Hanley Falls.

Gudmund Hardy (and John) ran the store at Hanley Falls until 1892. He also filled the offices of town clerk and constable. He and Mary then moved to a place near Duluth and ran a store, but returned to Hanley Falls and started storekeeping again. Gudmund was also postmaster for a second time. From 1900 to 1902 they operated a store at Glenwood, about 85 miles to the north. In 1903 they bought a store in the county seat town of Marshall and decided to remain there permanently. Mary died here in 1923 and was buried in the Marshall Cemetery. Gudmund was Mayor of Marshall for the period 1930-31.

Gudmund Hardy was the most famous member of the Ikdal Family. At least his name received wider newspaper publicity than that of any other. Strangely enough this publicity was earned in the field of sports -- the game of golf, a city man's game in which the Norwegian immigrant farm boy became interested and in which he learned to excel. In the local paper for Oct. 23, 1940 is the announcement:

"Gudmund Hardy, Marshall's perennial 79 year-old golfer, shot another hole-in-one at the Marshall Country Club Course yesterday, which makes it three in his life and two for this season."

In 1941 he was featured in Robert L. Ripley's "Believe it or Not", as one of the subjects of a cartoon published in the papers of the world. The drawing shows him at the top of his swing, and the caption says:

"G.L. Hardy, 79-year old golfer of Marshall, Minnesota, made a hole-in-one."

The article describing the cartoon said that it was the first hole-in-one ever made on the course. At one time Gudmund was in a Tournament with the Mayor of Minneapolis and others. A picture of Aug. 17, 1941

shows him as an 80-year-old participant, with a jacket which he won as champion of the 14th flight.

Jens Jenson Haarde, third in the family, came to Hanley Falls when very young. He contracted typhus fever and died in a small mining and lumbering town called Messabi, north of Duluth, Minnesota. Jens was a store clerk. He was about 28 years old at the time of his death.

Serine, Jens' sister, also came to America on a ticket provided by Uncle Osmund Veldey. She came with her brother Ole in May of 1890 by way of Stavanger, Hull, Liverpool, and New York. Their boat was the "Majestic" and the crossing took 14 days. From New York to Hanley Falls they traveled by train. However Serena did not like it in America and returned to Norway in about three years. Here she became afflicted with rheumatism and this resulted in her death. She is buried at Sandeid.

Although Lars Jenson Haarde was the fifth in the family, he got the home farm as his older brothers had all gone to America. He married Marie Aadnesdatter Skaalnes and had eight children, of which the fifth and sixth came to America.¹ Lars died when not yet 45 years old and was buried at Sandeid.

Ole, the sixth of the Haardes, came to America with his sister Serine in the manner already described. He was 18 years old and thought America was pretty grand. He worked on farms for his Uncle Osmund and others and in 1896 married and settled on a farm of his own. His wife was Inger Gilbertson the third in a family of three girls and two boys born to Gilbert Gilbertson. Inger was born at Spring Grove in Houston County, the most southeastern county in Minnesota. Three years after her birth, her family moved to the Hanley Falls vicinity.

Ole and Inger Hardy settled on an 80 in Section 32, Minnesota Falls Township. They later increased their holding to 300 acres and the farmstead has been handsomely improved. Beautiful evergreens of several varieties provide adequate protection from the winds or adorn the spacious lawn. The house is a large one and the dining room is enormous -- truly of Paul Bunyan dimension; and I doubt not that the hired girls pray often for roller skates. Ole still owns the farm although since Inger's death in 1941² he has spent much of his time with his oldest daughter near Granite Falls, leaving his son on the place. Ole has a keen sense of humor and a metric way of voicing his speech that is a pleasure to listen to.

After Ole the next of the Haardes in order of age was Osmund. He was a bugle man in the military. That is, he was called on at certain times to play in the government band, and for this service received pay. At the time of his marriage he secured a farm near the home farm and lived there. He has been married three times. His first wife, Maria Johannesdatter Haarde, died before she could give birth to a child; his second wife also died; and his present wife is still living with him on Haarde, Sandeid. Her maiden name was Malena (Mala) Christofersdatter Haualand.³

Gurine Jensdatter Haarde was the youngest of the eight Haarde children. She must have been born sometime after 1878, when her older brother Gudmund left for America, as he stated that he had never seen her. It is unusual for most of us to imagine someone living for more than 80 years and never being able to see his own sister, but this sort of thing is frequently one of the prices of immigration to a new land.

When Gurine was a little girl she and a neighbor boy were playing together one day when they decided to cook potatoes in or near the barn. Things went amiss and the barn caught fire. The neighbor boy ran home, passing by Gurine's brother Ole, then only a lad, who was cocking hay, but, quite naturally, said nothing about the cause of the fire. Ole decided that he had better remain with the hay. Meanwhile the neighborhood had been aroused and a bucket brigade formed between

¹A daughter in Norway married and went to live on Helgeland which was so hilly that it was spoken of as "straight up".

²She is buried in Hanley Falls in the Lutheran Cemetery.

³She had an Uncle Berge _____ in the battle of "Stony Run" according to tradition but perhaps the reference is to the "Bull Run" of the Civil War.

the river and the barn. The heat from the fire was so great that it was discovered later a row of slaty stone near the barn had actually melted.

Gurine married Guner Gunerson(?) Helleland from a farm by that name which is located not very far from Stavanger. She is still living.

CHAPTER XXX

In which we help build the first northern transcontinentals,
and see what good things can come out of fur trading

The third child and the third daughter born to Eli Larsdatter Sandvik and Gudmund Torgerson Lindanger(Velde) was Laurentse.¹ She married Nels Kristenson Urdal and they both came to America.

Laurentse (Laurença) is reported to have been the nicest looking of her family. She was of medium height, quite slender, and very erect -- even in the later years of her life. She was always neatly dressed, quite modern in dress and thought, and had a way of showing that she came from a good family without being offensive about it (apparently the Lindanger pride again). She got up early, was handy with the needle, did fancy work and could fix up the house. She liked to visit although in this country she did not talk so much about Norway.² She was a good Christian. Lastly, but by no means least, she gave birth to twelve children.

Nels Kristenson Urdal, her husband, was also a fine-looking individual. Relatively little courting was done in Norway as a rule but Nels liked the girls and used to talk of them. He was "social and smart" and a nice man to talk to. A great tease, he occasionally blew smoke at his wife as that was one of her pet annoyances. Nels had an excellent memory and outshone the rest of his family on this score. Although money couldn't stay with him he was easy to get along with and O.K. as a friend.

Nels was the oldest of seven children born to Krist and Ingebjør Urdal. He could have had the farm but Krist thought that a son who liked to dress up as much as Nels and who liked to sleep past farmers' hours in the morning was more adapted to some other occupation than farming. So it was arranged that the next son Paul should take the farm (see Chapter XXXII under Paul for a description) and Nels went on a husmannplass farther down, called Myrhol, and traded cattle. He would buy cattle, take them to the mountains, fatten them up, and sell them. He butchered some. He also raised goats and sheep and his boys helped him tend them. The goats came home each evening to be milked. The sheep were marked in the ears but a good owner could tell his own anyway.

Nine children were born and all went well until the depression following the Franco-Prussian War of 1870. Nels commenced to lose out and things got so bad that he wrote Osmund Veldey in America for assistance. Osmund suggested America and offered them tickets to come over. This appealed to Laurença but not Nels so they let the two oldest boys (Gudmund and Kris -- see below) go over first. This was in

¹This name is also spelled Laurentsa, Laurentza, Laurença, and Laurenza. The "c" is properly written with a cedilla to impart the sound "s", and with our family its quality approaches "z".

²She had a chest from Norway which had been given her by her father either upon her confirmation or marriage.

1879. The letters they wrote back¹ were so enthusiastic that Nels was convinced, and he and Laurença and five children (two having died in infancy and childhood) came to America. They came in May of 1880 and were three weeks on the ocean. The route was via Hull, Liverpool, and New York as usual but they came to Granite Falls instead of Marshall. Their oldest son, Gudmund, met them in Granite Falls.

Gudmund and Kris helped their father get started on 160 acres the two had acquired in Sandnes Township, Yellow Medicine County (see below). The land was in Kris's name until 1886 when it was signed over to Gudmund, and Nels then rented a half-section of land in Nasebrand(?) Township. The family lived there about five years and then bought 160 acres in Sandnes Township about four miles from Hanley Falls. This was purchased from the man who held the mortgage at a price which was probably about \$15 per acre. They lived here until 1892 when they rented near Kristen, on Section 3, Sweet Prairie Township. After a short time Nels started work as a mason and it was really not until 1894 that the family finally got settled.

The new place was a homestead in northwestern Minnesota not far west of Red Lake. It was located on Section 19, Goodridge Township, Pennington County, and cost \$4 per acre. Here Nels lived until 1912 when he went to stay with his son Osmund, living in the same vicinity. Here he died and was buried in the Haugus Cemetery, Cloverleaf Township. After his death Laurença stayed with her son Fred in Granite Falls until she passed on in 1920. She was laid to rest in the Granite Falls Cemetery.

Gudmund was the oldest of the Nels Urdal children. He and Kristen, the next oldest came to America together in 1879 as mentioned before. They sailed from Stavanger May 17, 1879 and after two days and one night landed in Hull. Then across England by train to Liverpool, where they had to wait seven days for the next boat. One day they went to a museum and when they came out a very thick fog had settled upon the city. A fog in Liverpool -- or any other English city -- is no joke as I know from personal experience,¹ and the two youths went past the place where they were supposed to stay and got lost. When they ran into the sea they asked a policeman for a seaman's home. He took them to the end of his beat and passed them on to the next policeman who did the same. Finally they reached their destination.

On the boat for America a storm came up and the calm that preceded was broken so suddenly that a group of Danish boys and girls were caught by the first big wave and flung against the rail. Gudmund and Kris and a third man picked them up and helped them below. For the next three days the captain let the two boys stay on deck as he thought they were sailors. The steamship was owned by an old English company known as the Guyen Line. Everybody slept in one big room. The men did not undress but just flung off their coats and boots. However some of them got awfully seasick and the doctor made them undress. The voyage took seven days.

The boys could not speak any English but did not have any trouble when they arrived in New York as the steamship company had an agreement with the railroad whereby the immigrants went straight on through. They came by way of Chicago to Marshall. The cost of the entire trip from Stavanger to Marshall was \$61.64.

The first year Kristen stayed with Uncle Osmund Veldey while Gudmund hired out to a man named Telemarken. The second year the two brothers rented a farm in Sandnes Township, and this year their folks arrived. The third year Gudmund hired out and Chris² ran the farm. Then the two bought a piece of Northwestern Railway land -- 160 acres -- at \$4 per acre, in Sandnes. They then bought an old house and moved it on to the place, got some implements and a team of horses, and put Nels

¹The stories of English fogs that you can cut with a knife are no exaggeration -- except that you have difficulty seeing the knife. I was in one fog so thick that I could not see the front wheel of the bicycle I was pushing beside me.

²Changes in spelling are intentional.

on it as related earlier.

Gudmund Urdahl¹ and his brother Chris then went out west and took part in the historic building of the Northern Pacific and Canadian Pacific Railways. Both railroads were racing for the coast at the time and the crews worked faster than usual. Gudmund worked on grading for the Canadian Pacific while Kristen was with a yard crew on the Northern Pacific at Glendive, Montana. Gudmund took his horses with him, lost one and sold the other. The brothers stayed only a few months. While out West, Chris saw a man who looked like his Uncle. He later found out that it had been his own brother Gudmund.

Gudmund married Anna Sigurdsdatter Olson whom he had met when working for her father, Telemarken. They settled on the farm that Nels was on and lived there until 1893, sole ownership having been given to Gudmund in 1886 as already mentioned. In 1893 Gudmund and Anna moved to Madison, Lake Falls County, where he bought cattle for a year. They then homesteaded in the Pennington County, northern Minnesota area on a 160 acre farm in Section 24, Goodridge Township. The cost was \$4 per acre. After about three years on this place they traded for a town property in Grand Forks, North Dakota, not far to the west. Here in his later years Gudmund ran a hotel. He is buried at Grand Forks. Anna spent her remaining years with the two youngest children at Fargo, North Dakota, but is buried at Grand Forks.

Since Kristen Urdal, Gudmund's brother, shared his experiences so much, the greater part of Kristen's story has just been told. However the following notes are necessary to complete the picture.

"It was the custom to farm out the kids", said Chris, "so I was brought up by the Urdals, and Lars [his twin] by the Veldes [his Uncle Torger]. When Lars died I went to the Veldes".

One of the things Chris learned in the construction camps and elsewhere was how to cure folks of certain cramps and fevers by vigorously brushing the soles of their feet. This cured one man after the doctor had failed. Another man, a logger, fell into the well when overheated, and got a cramp. Hot punch was administered as a remedy but this failed. Foot rubbing was resorted to and succeeded.

When Chris returned from the west he purchased 120 acres of partly improved land and lived there until 1891. He then sold out and bought a half-section on Section 3, Sweet Prairie Township. In 1893 he went into the general merchandising business in Minnesota, a town northwest of Marshall, but in 1901 went back to his old farm in Section 3, as a renter. Finally in 1904 he went up to northern Minnesota near his father and Gudmund and homesteaded on Section 19, paying \$4 per acre. Here he resided until 1922 when he moved to the nearby town of Goodridge and worked as a drayman for several years. In 1935 he and his wife, the former Hillborg Kittlesdatter Rauberg, moved to Thief River Falls. Hillborg died here but was returned to Goodridge for burial. Chris is still living in Thief River Falls with his youngest daughter.

The third on the Nels Kristenson Urdal family was Lauris (Lars), a twin brother of Kristen's. He was raised by the family of his Uncle Torger Velde but died at the age of 12 and was buried in Vats graveyard. Sigurd, the fourth, died in Norway at the age of two weeks. Peder Andreas, the next, came to America with his parents at the age of 14. He found his way out to California where he married Marie Peterson and had three children. Peder died in 1924 and his wife has since remarried.

Sixth among the Urdals was Ella Serine, the first daughter. She was only ten years old when the family came to America, and was almost lost at sea. She was on deck when a strong wind came up and the ship started to roll violently. Ella Serine was thrown from one side to the other. Just as she was thrown overboard, one of the sailors caught her. When she was just a few days past her 19th birthday she married, on Thanksgiving Day, 1889, Gudmund Torgerson Velde. Since he was her first cousin the story of their busy and prosperous life together will be given in Chapter XXXI following. By Gudmund, Ella Serine had seven children, Every one of which were boys. In later years she and Gudmund

¹Change in spelling is intentional.

became estranged and she now lives with her three youngest sons at Maynard, Minnesota, just northeast of Granite Falls.

Sessela Marie Urdall¹ was the seventh one of the family. She married Jacob Bernhard Oleson Nasheim, the third child born to Ole Johan and Bergethe Nasheim. Although born on Stöinaq, Jacob lived in Hauge-sund until he was 21 and then came to America. Here he spent a year in Chicago and four years in Minnesota prior to his marriage to Marie. The couple settled down at Clarkfield, Yellow Medicine County and lived there until 1917. Opportunities then seemed to be greater in Canada and more work was available around a Saskatchewan town called Rosetown; so the Nasheims moved northward to western Saskatchewan and settled in the great bend of the South Saskatchewan River. The home farm became a half-section about ten miles south of a town called Hughton on the Canadian National Railway. Marie followed her sister's example in having boys instead of girls but went her one better by having one more or eight instead of seven. She prefers the United States to Canada as a place to live but says: "My children are here so that makes a difference."

The eighth of Nels and Laurença's children was a second Lauris, or Lars. He also died but lived nine or ten years longer than his name-sake. After Lars came Osmund who married Petra Rothe and farmed near Goodridge, Minnesota. Petra died in 1940 and was buried in Goodridge. Osmund is still living in Thief River Falls. The tenth in the family was Freddy Nickolai Urdal, the first one to be born in America. He was born on the farm where his parents first lived upon their arrival here. Fred married Mabel Noreim and they live in Thief River Falls. He is a carpenter by trade and occupation. After Fred as the 11th and 12th in the family came the twins, born on the same farm as Fred. Their names were Laurença Amanda and Inga Adelia. They died in infancy.

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Let us now undertake that portion of the Velde family headed by the fourth generation Torger Gudmundson Velde and his wife Kari Olesdatter Bjoa.

We first hear of Torger at the time of Gamle Marthe's funeral (See Chapter I) from his second cousin, once removed, Ole Søvik. The latter helped Torger, then about 20 years old, row his boat from Sandvik to Lindanger with the Velde share of Gamle Marthe's things. At Lindanger Torger had to portage the goods across to Yrke and then continue by water on the Yrke and Vats Fjords.

Kari Olesdatter Bjoa was the oldest of five children born to Ole Olson (Farm of Etna) and Mari Ingebrets(?)datter Utbjoa. Utbjoa can be found on the 1933 map of Norway and is located on the north shore of the Haugesund peninsula in Fjeldberg Sogn, Sunnhordaland. A steamboat stopped there two times per week. Utbjoa was an average farm raising about 8 cows and perhaps 40 sheep, and located near the ocean. There was quite a lot of fishing with nets and other gear. Herring and salmon were caught. Ole and Mari were rather well-to-do. They moved to Bjoa proper after their marriage.

Now the match between Kari Olesdatter and Torger Gudmundson Velde was brought about in this fashion. There was an old man on Velde who used to go around buying furs. He knew Ole Utbjoa, who was kind of a trader himself and they got to talking. Ole knew Velde was a good farm. Torger was 21 and looking for a wife. So Ole told the old man to bring Torger up. He did so -- on horseback, the two farms being about 15 English miles apart. Ole told his daughter she was to make a match with Torger.

Torger was born in 1840(1842?) and was about 23 years old when he married Kari. They settled on Velde right away and lived there 16 years or until the spring of 1879. The five oldest children were born there. Due to financial assistance given to his sister Laurença, Torger was

¹We have spelled the names of her Erland cousins "Cecila" but the pronunciation is the same.

then forced to sell Velde,¹ but he did so with the understanding that he and Kari could have the small place Krossen (on Velde) for the life of the one living the longer. Torger then bought a house and moved it on Krossen. Here three more children were born making eight in all: Serena, Gudmund, Ole Lauris, Karen Marie -- more commonly, Maria Olava, Faltin Olai, Serena (again), Osmund Amiel, and Thea Karena. Kari, the mother died in 1893.

Two years later Torger married Valborg Nerheim, a young woman of 23. Nerheim ("Nerem") was in Ølen,² northeast of Vats. Her father was either named "Reinert", "Nels", or "Ole". In 1906 Torger died on Krossen and was laid to rest in Vats. Valborg remarried and her second husband took the house on Krossen and moved it to Stordöen, a large island in Sunnhordaland northwest of Utbjoa. Houses, it seemed, could be taken apart and even transported on the water. Valborg died (in 1940?) on this island and is buried there.³

Serena Torgersdatter Velde, the oldest of the Velde children worked out when she was young. She worked for her grandmother Eli Larsdatter Velde who had a poor old lady boarder who was afflicted with tuberculosis. She coughed a great deal and Serena acquired the disease and died when only 16 years old. She was buried in Vats kirkegaard.

This boarder was the result of a custom prevailing in our ancestral parishes for taking care of old people who had no means of support. Certain men were voted on to be responsible for these people and they would call a meeting. The various farmers would come to this meeting and bid on a contract to take care of a man and a woman for say six months time. The lowest bidder would get the contract. Thus the old folks would be provided for and moved around so that the burden on the parish was divided. Some old people might be left and there were compulsory assignments made to the farmer for these. The length of time of the assignment would be in proportion to the size of the farm.

CHAPTER XXXI

Immigrants Progress

Most of our immigrant forefathers came to America with little or no money -- in fact some were in debt for their passage when they arrived. But they trusted in God and in themselves, worked hard, saved their money, and made progress. They acquired land, a wife, a family. Naturally some were more successful than others -- acquired extra money in the bank, set their sons up on farms, retired to town, and even partook of the joys of travel before old age claimed them. In other chapters we made the acquaintance of ancestors who in varying degrees shared these good fortunes. Let us now meet two more -- Gudmund and Faltin Velde.

Gudmund Torgerson Velde was the second of the Velde. The year he was 16 he worked for his Uncle Paul Urdal and received \$1.50; the year he was 17, \$2.00; when 18, \$2.50. He also received a suit of clothes and a pair of shoes for his work. Then in the spring of 1885 when Gudmund was 19, his Uncle Osmund Veldey sent him a ticket to come to America.

¹Kari Lindanger Musland and her husband Rasmus were the purchasers.

²The name "Olespøen" is also mentioned in connection with Valborg's home.

³Her second husband died quite a few years before her.

In the 1880s steamboats were in use and the crossing took two weeks. Under third class travel there was not much in the way of beds and other accommodations. The passengers were all in the same room which was not divided off very much with regard to sexes. Each individual had to have his own dishware and when the food was brought from the aisles, everyone got his portion and ate whatever he wished. There was no common ship's table. When they landed in New York they had to go through the admission procedure at Castle Garden before Ellis Island. There was no place to sit down and people stood for hours. From New York to Chicago Gudmund and the others rode in a freight train although they had to ferry one place enroute. In Chicago they were given a place to stay over night without charge. (It was in America that Gudmund saw his first fork and his first tablecloth.) From Chicago travel was by passenger train. Gudmund didn't have money and he couldn't speak English but there was a man who helped him get to the right place. Fifty years later this man's daughter inquired what had become of Gudmund.

Three years after his penniless arrival in America Gudmund Velde was able to buy a quarter section on Section 25, Hazel Run Township, Yellow Medicine County. This was in what was then called, "Speculators Prairie" -- all new land that had never been broken. In 1889 he married first cousin Ella Serena Urdal, of whom we have already spoken in Chapter XXX, and the couple settled on "the prairie" the following year. On this home farm all of their children -- the seven boys -- were born.

Gudmund was successful at farming and in 1904 he was able to fulfill the usually unfulfilled dream of every immigrant -- to return to Norway in prosperous circumstances.

He went out from Christiania (Oslo), the capital, as a traveling man as he wished to surprise folks and especially his father. He came to Amsosen, a town in Vats, on a body of water four English miles long and about one mile wide. Here he inquired if there was anyone in town from Ovre Vats and so he made out an excuse to walk. He joined a man from Sørhus behind his wagon.

It was about 11:00 o'clock in the evening when Gudmund reached the neighborhood of his old home. It was a beautiful moonlight night and since Gudmund had been gone for 19 years he just stood still for about half an hour, drinking it all in.

Finally the prodigal turned to the door and knocked. His father had remarried and his second wife was a little hard of hearing. But soon he heard his dad's wooden shoes. Gudmund asked for a place to stay the night. His father said it was doubtful if he had a place to put him, thinking that he didn't have a bed good enough for such a finely dressed gentleman. Gudmund told him he was a traveling man from Christiania selling stuff to stores. His father quizzed him quite a lot. Finally he said he'd see his wife as to whether he could stay, but he failed to recognize him as his son. He got his wife up and they agreed to find a place for the stranger to sleep.

Torger got to talking about his sons in America. He said that he had heard that the oldest son was coming home but said that he would just as soon see the youngest one. He talked about how his boys were well-to-do and had lots of money and land, but said they should have sent him some more money. After a little they all went to bed.

In the morning Torger started cutting up potatoes for planting. He cut only one eye to the piece and so Gudmund corrected him on that. Then he made as if to go and asked his father how much he owed him. But the latter said he wouldn't charge him anything. Gudmund insisted however so he finally said 15 øre -- about 5¢ in American money. Gudmund offered him 2 krone (about 50¢). He refused to take it so left it upon his father's knee.

"How can you afford that?", he asked.

"Oh, my company gives me money for expenses".

"Oh, that's so!"

Gudmund had kept his hat and coat -- both rather fine American brands, as much out of sight as possible. But while he was talking to his sister Serena they had been left in the bedroom. Torger was in there telling his wife about the two krone. He told her the man must work for a very rich company or must be rich himself. Noticing his hat,

he remarked about the lettering in it. His wife went over and read it, telling Torger it said, "G.T.Velde".

"That's Gudmund, your son", she said.

Torger came out all white and shaky. "Are you my son?"

"Why do you ask that?", responded Gudmund.

"The name in your hat."

So Gudmund saw that the jig was up, shook hands with his father and explained everything.

Gudmund spent eight months in Norway. He traveled as well as visited and saw the country from midnight sun to Lindesnes. When he left, according to his youngest sister who returned to America with him, he stood on the dock throwing 20 krone notes to all his cousins. "He cut a fine figure with his full beard to tie in with his derby hat and fine dark summer coat."

Back in America again, Gudmund continued to prosper. About 1915 he bought out two of his neighbors at \$83 per acre and increased his holdings to 700 acres. He was once offered \$168 per acre for all of the 700 acres. 400 acres were in Sections 30 and 31, Minnesota Falls Township, and the rest in Section 36, Hazel Run Township. He quit farming in 1918 but helped his older boys until 1926.

Gudmund T. Velde and his wife were divorced and he married again in 1928 to Lisa Elida Enevoldsdatter Stangeland Christensen Lien. Elida was the oldest of five children born to Enevold Østenson Stangeland and Lisa Torgersdatter Fjermestad. She was born on Sandnes (a town south of Stavanger) while her father was on a trip to America. He sent the first telegram ever sent from Granite Falls inquiring about her mother before Elida's birth. In June of 1900 Elida came to America with her parents and one brother. The boat Venus took them from Stavanger to Hull and the Lusitania from Liverpool to New York where they landed on July 1st. The Stangelands proceeded to Leland, Illinois, and settled just south of there.

While her parents lived near Leland, Elida studied a year at Pleasant View College, Ottawa. In 1907 her parents homesteaded at Burlington, northeastern Colorado. In January 1908 she married Jens C. Christensen who died in October of the following year. For five years she served as interpreter at the Kit Carson County Courthouse at Burlington, and following this taught school for five years in a parochial school near Canton, South Dakota. In 1918 Elida married Peter J. Lien, by whom she had one son while living on a farm south of Canton. When Peter died in 1921 she again taught school.

Elida Velde has been very active in organizational and promotional work. From 1924 to 1930 she was Field Secretary and national organizer for the Norwegian Lutheran Teachers Association and had charge of seven mid-western states. She joined the Womans Christian Temperance Union at the age of nine in Norway. In this country she has been the state promoter of the national W.C.T.U. papers, "The Union Signal" and "The Young Crusader". Also the district director of nine counties in W.C.T.U. work. She is the local president, and is a member of the W.C.T.U. State Central Committee.

Gudmund and Elida Velde have always enjoyed traveling. In the fall of 1928 and in 1929 they spent seven months on the west coast. In 1932 they took a trip to Montana and Canada, and in 1933 spent quite a while at the Chicago Worlds Fair. They have attended most of the Stavanger lags in America. In the spring of 1937 they set sail for the Old World and spent some time in France, Belgium, Germany, Sweden, Denmark, and Norway. From June 18 to Aug. 31, they were in the latter country. They stayed on the old Velde home place for ten days and visited all the home places where the children of Eli Larsdatter and Gudmund Torgerson Velde had lived. They also saw all of the cousins with but few exceptions. On the return trip to America the Veldes spent some time in England, Ireland, and Scotland and about a week in New York City.

Gudmund Velde and Elida are now living in the town of Granite Falls, Minnesota where he owns three houses and has resided since May 9, 1929. He is now (February, 1946) 80 years old and has been a resident of Yellow Medicine County for nearly 61 years.

Although ten years younger than Gudmund, Faltin Olai Velde, the fifth in the family, has enjoyed a life somewhat paralleling his brother's. We have already mentioned something of Faltin's youth in speaking of his step-grandfather in Chapter II. In 1893 when Faltin was 17 he wrote Gudmund for a ticket to America and the latter sent a ticket suggesting that their little brother Osmund be sent. An Uncle on their mother's side was home on a visit and Faltin and he decided to bring Osmund to America with them. Money was borrowed from a banker in Stavanger for the purpose and Faltin took the ticket sent by Gudmund. The latter later repaid the Stavanger banker. The Uncle accompanied them as far as Illinois where they arrived in April after leaving home in March.

Upon his arrival Faltin worked for Gudmund and then hired out for several years. As soon as he was able to stand on his own, he commenced looking about for a wife. One Sunday he went to visit a friend who worked at the county farm. His friend's wife and hired girl were at church. When they came home his friend introduced him. The girl was Ellen Foien, a "newcomer girl".

"That's the one for me", said Faltin to himself.

It later developed that Ellen thought Faltin looked O.K., too, and so the match was consummated. Amidst the very comfortable circumstances of their later years, Faltin was wont to joke.

"But I came from a poor farm (in Norway) during Cleveland's depression and got my wife at a poor farm."

Ellen Severine Ivarsdatter Foien was the youngest of nine children born to Iver Iver(?)son Foien and his wife Helena. Foien is a small island close to Stordoen in Sondre Bergenhus Amt. There were four farmers on the island. Ellen came over in 1899 at the age of 18, having been preceded by two brothers and a sister. She came to her brother's at Cottonwood, Yellow Medicine County. At the time of her marriage she spoke only Norwegian so her children were fortunate in having a rich heritage in that language. The four oldest -- there were twelve -- could only speak Norwegian when they started to school.

Faltin and Ellen Velde settled on 80 acres that Faltin had purchased in Minnesota Falls Township but traded this for a quarter section in Section 18 and lived there for eight years. This was the home place. In 1914 he bought six 40s in Sections 17 and 20 and still has them. He bought three more quarters later for a total of 720 acres. Then he sold an 80 and in 1942 retired to Granite Falls, although since, he has acquired another quarter in Stony Run Township. Faltin now lives in a fine new house and still enjoys life to the fullest. He likes to travel, frequently shows the younger generation how to cut fancy figures on the ice in the wintertime, and loves to argue and joke about politics. Possessing a ready wit and an infectious humor, Faltin once told a Granite Falls banker:

"I'm the richest man in Granite Falls ...", and before the banker could mentally decide on the correctness of this statement, he added: -- "in children".

CHAPTER XXXII

Wherein we see how the Ikdals first came to Minnesota
when the state was very young

Ole Lauris Torgerson Velde came between Gudmund and Faltin in order of age and was the third child in the family. As a lad he worked on farms in Norway but when 17 he wrote to his brother Gudmund for a ticket to America. He came over in 1889 and worked for Gudmund, who had then been in the United States four years, by taking care of his herd of cattle on Speculators Prairie. After about a year and a half he went to work for Margo Anderson and in a year married his daughter Serena.

After marriage Ole and Serena rented a restaurant in Cottonwood for a year and then rented her father's farm. They next bought a quarter in Normania Township, Yellow Medicine County and this became the home farm where all the children were born. When the oldest son became of age they sold the place to him and bought 80 acres a little farther east in the same township. In the summer of 1942 Ole and Serena retired to Granite Falls.

The fourth child of Torger Gudmundson and Kari Velde was a girl named Karen Marie or Maria Olava (pronounce "Mar'ee a - Olav'a").¹ She kept house for her father after her mother died, although she was only ten years old at the time. When she grew older she blossomed forth into a very attractive young lady who became one of the most popular girls in the neighborhood. Among her many swains young Martin Haga got the nod and the wedding day was set. Maria was bedecked with all the wedding finery that was appropriate for a parish belle to wear. The principal adornment was a crown of gold no less than 14 inches high with ribbons trailing behind. She rode in a gig, where the driver sits up behind. The custom was to put flowers on the road in front of each house before the gig arrived. Then after the gig had passed the men would shoot off their guns -- especially the young swains who were rejected. The mountain sides of old Norway must really have reverberated at Maria Velde's wedding.

The lucky man in all of this, Martin Haga, was born Martin Teodor Martinson Haga, the fourth of ten children belonging to Martin Aadneson and Toletta his wife. Haga was in one of the four lakes in Hoiland Sogn east of Sandnes. It was different than most farms -- so big that no estimate was made of the live stock, and husmennplass were almost unknown. Tradition states that the name Haga was derived from the large number of small fields. There were eight farms and in addition to his tillable land, each farmer had about 100 acres of the rocky mountain in back of Haga. On this mountain grew "lung", a bushy plant about one to one and one-half feet high eaten by cows and sheep. In nearby mountains and on the islands near Haga were more than 20 huts used by tourists. People came out from Stavanger, about 12 Norwegian miles away.

Martin Haga worked in a warehouse in Sandnes for several years before his marriage. After this event he and Maria settled on Alfsnes, located on the island Alfsnes about one mile east of Haga. Here they bought 35 møl of plowed field (3.75 møl equals one acre) and 100 acres of land. They lived pa Alfsnes for about six years² and increased the tillable land to 55 møl. Then they sold and bought the farm of Johannes Haga, neighbor to Martin Aadneson Haga. This consisted of about 12 acres of cultivated field. Here they raised oats, barley, spuds, peas, and turnips. Maria had no less than 14 children³ -- the largest family on the Ikdal family tree -- but nevertheless lived her appointed three-score and ten years. She died on Haga in 1944.

As in the case of their cousins, the Hundsnes branch of the family, the Veldes also had a "Serena the older" and a "Serena the younger". The latter was the sixth in the family and was born on Krossen short-

¹We might guess that her name was Karen Marie Olava.

²The three oldest children were probably born here.

³Two of these came to America.

ly after the death of Serena the older, which explains the duplication of the name. Serena the younger left home to go to school when she was about 18 years old. She took training at Christiania (Oslo) but was probably not long at school. She fell from some vehicle and was hurt. Eventually pneumonia developed and she died at the early age of 26 or 27.

As mentioned above Osmund Amiel Torgerson Velde, seventh in the family, came over to America and to Minnesota with his brother Faltin and an uncle in 1893. Since he was only ten years old he went to an American school and was confirmed here. At 16 or 17 he went out to work around Clarkfield (Yellow Medicine County) and Eau Claire, Wisconsin. He then went to the state of Washington but settled down in Portland, Oregon, and operated a trucking business. He married Clara O(?) Johnson, and they had three children. Osmund continued in the trucking business in Portland until he died in 1939. He was buried in Portland. His wife continued to live in that city, near their children.

The youngest Velde, or "the baby in the family" as she expresses it, was Thea Karena, who came along seven years after her brother Osmund. When she was a little girl she was a great favorite of her grandmother Eli, then approaching her middle 80s. She would feel how high she had grown each time Thea came to visit her.¹ This was rather frequent as Eli lived not far away from the Torger Velde home.

Thea came to America with Gudmund when he was returning from his trip in 1904. They went from Stavanger to Southampton and then took a sight-seeing trip through London. Thea's Uncle Ingebret and his wife were also in the party and when they landed in New York Thea went on with them to Morris, Illinois, while Gudmund remained for a couple of weeks in New York. Gudmund later came on and took Thea to Minneapolis and to Granite Falls.

Thea had wanted to come to America ever since she was eight years old. She only knew four words of English and thought America was a terrible place at first. Everything looked so empty -- "like a lost place" -- especially around Granite Falls. Even Illinois hadn't seemed quite so bad. The first thing she wanted was a new pair of shoes -- "newcomer shoes" weren't any good she thought. She stayed with Faltins. She wanted to go to school so badly and kept pestering her brothers to give her money for it. The Velde girls had never had to hire out in Norway and Thea had inherited just enough of the pride of the house of Lindanger to keep her from wanting to start here. She sold one of her brothers an alarm clock for \$1.25 to get money for tablets.

At this point a bold and daring "Yankee" enters the picture. It was distinctly Norwegian country around Hanley Falls; practically every one was Norwegian and any stray who wasn't was promptly dubbed a "Yankee". Our Yankee, we say, was "bold and daring" not only because he invaded this community (we must admit that he came with his parents) but because he ran off with the heart of one of its fair flowers -- the Norske pega, Thea Velde -- and for a number of years thereafter suffered the silence of the dumb at all family gatherings and talkfests. We can picture him sitting in a forgotten corner of a roomful of Norwegians amazedly wondering what they could be jabbering about now.

He of whom we speak was Ernest Calvin Daby, son of Moses Bolton Daby and Permelia Ellathea Hall. Ernest was born in Owatonna, southeastern Minnesota, and was the fifth of eleven children. The family moved to Mankato, Minnesota, but when Ernest was 12 years old went on to a farm in Nobles County, in the southwestern part of the state. From here they came to Hanley Falls where Ernest husked corn for Gudmund Velde and thus met Thea.

Ernest and Thea Daby set up housekeeping on a farm west of Hanley Falls. After five years, during which time the two oldest children were born, they moved to a 160 acre farm in Section 17, Minnesota Falls Township. Here they still reside, one of the jolliest couples of their generation.

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¹It should be recalled that Eli was blind in her last years.

Now the pioneer member of the Ikdal Family in the great state of Minnesota, and the one who was instrumental in bringing so many of the Velde branch to America, was Osmund Gudmundson Velde (4th generation). In this country he was known as Osmund Veldey. He became, it is said, the second richest man in Yellow Medicine County.

Osmund Gudmundson Velde was confirmed with his second cousin, once removed, Ole Sjøvik, in 1858. The two were well acquainted and this again reminds us of the fact that Vats parish was annexed to Skjold and that there was undoubtedly considerable communication between the members of the Ikdal Family living in the two parishes. If it were not for this association a great number of our Minnesota cousins would have remained unknown to the rest of the family.¹

After the death of his father and when he was about 15, Osmund continued to live at home taking care of his mother. Since his older brother Torger got the farm when the estate was settled, Osmund learned the blacksmith trade and practiced that, making scythes and other tools as demand occasioned. In April or May of 1866 or in 1867² he came to America with some friends from Vats who were bound for Fillmore County, the Norwegian stronghold in southeastern Minnesota. The route was via Quebec and Chicago.

In Fillmore County Osmund practiced his trade of blacksmithing and, still retaining some of his father's inheritance, was able to make a trip back to Norway for a visit in 1872. He stayed at home with his mother for a year -- we can imagine her joy at seeing him again -- and practiced his blacksmith trade. While home he brought a photographer out from Haugesund and had a picture taken of his brother Torger and his wife Kari and two children; Serena the older, and Gudmund. He also built a house on Krakk for his sister Ellen³. Then Osmund received a letter from a friend in Fillmore County, G.S. Johnson, urging him to hurry back to Yellow Medicine County and help him start a store.⁴ So Osmund returned to Fillmore County and with Johnson crossed the state of Minnesota by ox team, the accepted mode of travel in those days.

Osmund Veldey was a pioneer in a pioneering community. He located on the open prairie where there were no trees, but it was not far from the river. He built a blacksmith shop and practiced for two years⁵ and also ran a store. Supplies were brought in by ox team from New Ulm and Mankato, 65 and 90 miles to the east. The store supplied groceries and dry goods but there was not as much canned goods on the shelves as in the general store of later years; in fact, the only canned goods were sardines. Osmund also did a little farming and knew all about prairie fires in summer and blizzards in winter. To fill in his spare time, he became postmaster of the "town" in 1873 and also acted as Justice and

¹Communication with the Velde descendants was established through information supplied by Ole Sevig in the late 1930s. He had apparently maintained some kind of contact with Osmund Veldey after they both came to America in the late 1860s, and although he had forgotten the place where Osmund settled he could say that it was in Minnesota. This posed one of those problems that make the hobby of genealogy as interesting as a detective's search for a missing person; for the area of Minnesota is 84,000 square miles and its population 2,792,000. After searching for about a year I happened to be in the Newberry Library one night looking through the History of the Minnesota Valley by Rev. Edward D. Neill, North Star Publishing Co., Minneapolis, 1882. On page 895 my attention was arrested by a tiny item of a few print lines which commenced, "O.G. Veldey was born in Norway in 1845 and came to this country" Since I had his date of birth from Ole Sevig, I knew that this was the man for whom I sought. Although the post office given was no longer in existence I was able to find where it had been and write to a nearby postmaster. He referred me to the county auditor and through the latter I contacted and later visited the Velde descendants.

²Latter date, loc.cit.

³There is some possibility that this may have been done on a later trip.

⁴G.S. Johnson already had a brother in that county.

⁵History of the Minnesota Valley, loc.cit.

Treasurer.¹ Then in 1877 he got married.

The girl he chose to share his early-day experiences was Dena Hanson, a veritable gem of a woman and a real pioneer.

Dena Hanson was born Kjersdina Tønnisdatter Gilje on the gaard Gilje, Hoiland Sogn, near Sandnes, Norway. She was the sister of Tilla Hardy (See Chapter XXIX) and was the daughter of Tonnis Hanson Gilje and Anna Johnsdatter, sister of G.S. Johnson. Gilje was the Klokker gaard of Hoiland, the Klokke being the man who said the prayers and lead the songs (försanger) in church. The windows for this church were made in the living room of the Gilje house. Hans and Tønnis did not agree on certain matters so the farm was turned over to Tønnis's brother, Andreas,² and Tønnis and his family subsequently came to America. This was when Dena was but one and one-half years old. The year was 1860.³

Dena Hanson lived with her parents in dugouts for 14 years and so her earliest memories were associated with the most rugged kind of pioneer life. Her mother was a great talker and smoked a pipe. The first dugout was apparently located in Fillmore County. In 1871(?) the Hansons, the Johnsons (Dena's mother's family), the Symondsons, and Hans Anfinsons all moved to the new frontier of Yellow Medicine County. Here they took up homesteads -- Tønnis was on the south side of the Yellow Medicine River -- and called the area Sandnes after the town Sandnes in Jaeren, Norway, from whence they had originally come.

Osmund Veldey and Dena Hansen were married at a big double wedding ceremony in the Leknaes home in Sandnes Township. Rev. Berg of Sacred Heart, Minnesota, was the minister. The wedding presents were delivered to the newly-weds at their home. Osmund built a new store and they lived above it. Before long they bought some land from an old man by the name of Yolste, who was going to quit farming and started farming themselves. They had a little barn near the store.

Osmund and Dena Veldey had twelve children all born on this same place. In addition to the children there was always plenty of company because Osmund was agent for a steamship line and he and Dena were always welcoming "newcomers" and helping them to get started. Besides this, Osmund purchased at different times approximately 15 tickets and sent them to Norway to provide his own relatives with transportation to America. These relatives included, as mentioned earlier, the entire Nels Urdal family; Gudmund, John, Jens, Serena, and Ole Hardy; and Gudmund Velde. To the single men especially, the Veldey household was like a second home and they unconsciously relied on Dena, who was quite willing, to take the place of the mothers they had left across the sea.

Meanwhile "Civilization" was catching up to western Minnesota and Osmund was becoming well-to-do. The Northwestern Railroad reached Marshall, Minnesota, and it was necessary to go only 35 miles for supplies much better than taking the former ox-team trip of 65 or 90 miles. A second railroad came to a new place called Hanley only a mile from Sandnes. Osmund saw "which way the wind was blowing", sold the store to Gudmund and John Hardy, and bought a hardware store at Hanley. He also advised Gudmund and John to come to Hanley and in 1884 they did so. About this time the word "Falls" was added to the name "Hanley" in order to avoid confusion with a "Hawley, Minnesota, already in existence.

Osmund continued to live on his farm however, kept a clerk in the store, and walked back and forth the mile to town. He was cashier of the school district for a year. He later sold the hardware store and made a business of loaning money, although he continued to farm. He became, it is said, and as mentioned before, the second richest man in Yellow Medicine County, the richest being his partner, G.S. Johnson, who came to own 15 banks in North Dakota. About 1902 Osmund moved from the farm to Cottonwood, where the family resided for three years, and then went to live in a fine, new house in Hanley Falls which he had just built. Here he lived until his death in 1922 at the age of 77. He left a very large estate, the most important(?) item of which was 1200

¹Ibid.

²Andreas married Kristina Stangeland, an aunt of the father of Elida Stangeland Velde.

³According to another account Dena was four which would make it 1862.

acres of land almost all in one block in Yellow Medicine County.

What manner of man was this 4th generation forefather of ours who was generous and yet so successful? In the first place he was what the world calls "a worker", as his father had been before him. "Osmund was pretty near crazy when he had something to do", says one nephew. "The carpenters couldn't get things done fast enough to suit him. The shingles just flew for Osmund." And he frequently overworked to the extent of getting a severe pain in his back. He was of average height and slight build and was quite nimble on his feet. When he was 46 years old he successfully met a challenge by jumping on a horse by just placing one hand on its mane. He had suffered a bad cold when about 35 and by the time he was 45 his hearing had become impaired so that he had to use an earhorn, which he held to his ear whenever necessary.

A few observations may also be made about Osmund's character. He was "a rather quick-tempered, outspoken man". He was "a good man who gave money to poor people". He was "economical and smart". In his spare time Osmund liked to read. He was one of the leaders of the Free Church, which had no connection with the Norwegian State Church, and believed in preaching the gospel and in living accordingly.¹

After Osmund's death Dena continued to live in the big house in Hanley Falls with her son Lewis. She was a quiet home-body and liked to crochet. In her last years she suffered from lapses of memory, and died in 1944 at the age of 85. Her nephews still remember the many sacrifices she made for them and for other newcomers. "She was an awful nice woman", said one. "She had to take care of all the newcomers but had the same friendly feeling all the time. A good, kind woman....." "Dena was a mother to all of us", said another nephew.

The twelve children born to Osmund Gudmundson Veldey and his wife Kjersdina Tönnisdatter Gilje are as follows: Enok Godtfred, deceased in infancy; Tedlef Amandius; Lauritz Olia (Lewis); Henry Martinus and Ella Adelia, both deceased in infancy; Henry Martinus again; Selmer Ferdinan, deceased in infancy; Enok Godtfred again; Ella Adelia again; Selmer Ferdinan again; Cleford Oliver; and Esther Qornelia. Lewis, although he lost his hearing, was the President and Manager of the Veldey Estate Corporation, "owning and operating choice Minnesota farms in the heart of the corn belt". This estate was not entirely sold until early in 1944. Henry Martinus Veldey was Vice-President of the Corporation. Fred became a banker in Minneapolis although he lost his hearing like Lewis. His wife, Helga Torgersdatter Tweedt, came to Granite Falls (where she had an uncle) from Saetersdal, Norway in 1905. Ella Adelia married a doctor but both are now deceased. Selmer Ferdinan lives in the Inland Empire of our great Northwest. Esther married Richard Wickham and lives in Detroit.²

Cleford Oliver Veldey the eleventh in the Veldey family joined the army in his senior year of highschool and saw service in World War I.

After the war he saw an ad in a banker's magazine and went to Coon Valley, Wisconsin, and got the job. The town is located in the western part of the state not far from LaCrosse. This was about 1919. In 1927 he married Margaret Hazel Towner the fifth of five children born to John Carley Towner and Margaret Bartle. She was born at Trempealeau, Wisconsin, and grew up there. After attending the Normal School at Eau Claire, Wisconsin, she taught in Wisconsin schools for six years.

After their marriage Cleford and Margaret settled in Coon Valley and remained there for six years. The Coon Valley Bank was one of two

¹This is our traditional interpretation, of course, and not necessarily official.

²It is to be regretted that more information could not be secured about these Veldey cousins. The reason is in part due to the fact that although they are 5th generation Ikdals, in point of time they are actually 6th and 7th generations. This is unusual and means that as a part of a more modern age, they live in widely separated parts of the country and thus lack the genealogical information about each other that their older cousins gained through inter-visiting. Further, there is perhaps a natural reticence to speak about oneself by letter, and personal interviews were not always possible.

in the county that survived the bank closing days of the early 30s. It opened the bank in the nearby town of Westby and the family moved there to live in 1933. Besides working in the bank Cleford clerks the sales for the community. He also acted as Secretary of the Veldey Estate Corporation.

*** **

The sixth child of Eli Larsdatter Sandvik and Gudmund Torgerson Velde was Anna Karina. She was raised on Velde and married Paul Kristenson Urdal, brother of Nels. Anna's brother-in-law Paul was next to Nels in order of age in the Urdal family (See Chapter XXX). The wedding or brolop was performed in the Skjold Church as was the custom.

Wedding celebrations usually lasted from two to three days (sometimes longer) and were held at the bride's home. People came to the home the day before, went to church the next day, and didn't go home until the third day. Many of the men slept upstairs on the floor for the interim nights but the closest neighbors went home and came back in time for dinner on the following day. There were puddings and all sorts of good things to eat. In the morning there were many kinds of fancy baked goods and coffee and in the evening a big meal. One of the items was dravle, which was sweet milk cooked up for nearly a day. The constant boiling gave it a better flavor. A popular topic of conversation was the "bride's mush". This was made from rice in a big kettle hanging in a certain position in the fireplace. Each farm contributed milk for the mush and since some milk might come from fresh cows, and some might not be so fresh, there was danger of curdling. The bride brought in the first dish of mush and this was to go to the groom. Generally the older men or those who had "had a little extra" would try and catch her with the dish still in her hand. Whoever succeeded in doing this had the right to exact a penalty from the groom -- a cigar or a drink -- for her release.

Paul was the one who received his father's farm. Urdal was two English miles away from Velde at the end of a little valley. It supported 9 cows, 2 horses and 60 sheep, and was perhaps 15 of our acres in size.¹ Since Urdal was quite a distance in from the sea -- in fact, no water could be seen -- the residents did not do much fishing. There was a certain amount of low land on the place and this was not really well-tiled until Paul's son took over the management. Urdal had a lot of forest, principally pine. There were three farms, of which Paul's was Sudre Urdal. A river flowed between the farms and there were mills on it; so when the river was high they ground grain. Paul had an old style house at first. It had no upstairs and there was a window in the roof which was opened by a pole. But about 1882 he built a house with an upstairs.

Paul and Anna Urdal were both good workers and their hard work paid them well so that they were more well-to-do than many. Paul would get up at 4:00 A.M. and go out to cut hay. He cut down trees and sold the wood to ship builders; and cut cordwood and hauled that; After dinner he would smoke his pipe and lie down to sleep for an hour. He was a quiet man without much to say but always got along well with his neighbors. He was also economical. Anna did much spinning and weaving. At 4:00 P.M. she came out to the field where the men were working and brought them the big afternoon meal -- meat, potatoes, etc. She was ambitious and bound to make a go of things. She died when not so very old and was buried in Vats Kirkegaard. Paul then turned the farm over to the oldest son and built himself a folgahus. A long time after this he left Urdal and went to live with his daughter Serena at Vestvold, Blikrabygd. He died here and was buried in Vats.

¹Note that here is the first direct tie-in between Norwegian and American ways of measuring the size of a farm. However I suppose that we cannot assume the measure is always equivalent since some land is more productive than other land.

The Urdals had eight children of whom Gudmund was the oldest. He was working in a hardware store in Stavanger at the time his mother died but went home and took over the farm. He is a very well-read man.¹ After Gudmund the other children are Cecilia(Selia), Serine, Maria, Kristen, Peder Lovise, and another daughter now living on Stølen, Indre Bjoa.

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The youngest of the Gudmund Velde children to reach maturity was Eli Serine or Ellen. She married Sjur Jakobson Krakk and lived on Krakk. It was located in Vats right across the parish line from Elleflot in Skjold. Krakk was not as large as the majority of farms, supporting only 5 cows, 30 sheep, and a horse. It was neither a very good nor a very good-appearing farm. It was very steep and there was a mountain close up behind. From the house down to the road it was so steep that a man had to go sideways -- he could not walk straight forward. Like many places in Norway the house and buildings were up next to the mountain and the fields were below them. Thus the hay and other crops had to be carried up the mountain to be stored.

There were two farms on Krakk and Sjur and Eli Serine lived on the upper one, called Ovre Krakk. Sjur, being the oldest son, had inherited the place from his parents. Osmund Veldey built a house on the farm when he was home on a visit.² Sjur was a good-looking, sensible, Christian man who was sort of a church layman among the neighbors. He was a leader in Sunday religious meetings and could get up on his feet and talk. It was the custom to gather in a meeting house after church and talk over the sermon and sing. The preacher did not approve of such meetings and never went; but the people were pious and seriously felt the need for such affairs. The meetings were held in a schoolhouse or in meeting houses. These had been built in wayside places because the church was so distant that many people could only attend church a few times a year. The youngsters, too, attended these meetings -- there was no ball playing to keep them away -- and they often came home in the evenings singing religious songs on the road.

Sjur Krakk died before Ellen but their son Jakob took charge of the farm and Ellen continued to live there. Later she moved to Hauge-sund and lived with her two daughters who were dressmakers. There were six of the Krakk children, the youngest being a daughter and a twin of Jakob, for whom she kept house. Jakob is said to have been in America around Eagle Grove, Iowa for a time.

*** **

Lars, the eighth and last of the Gudmund Velde children, died when only five and one-half years old.

*** **

This concludes the stories of the first 5 generations in the Ikdal Family. It also concludes the biographical section of the Ikdal Family History. No attempt has been made to gather similar information about the younger generations for two simple reasons: (1) Our lives are usually not sufficiently advanced to be properly evaluated as completed units. (2) It is not seeming that we write about ourselves. That is a job for succeeding generations should they find us worthy.

¹Gudmund is recommended to anyone wishing to do further genealogical research on the Ikdal Family on the Norwegian side of the water.

²While it is presumed this was in 1872 he may have built it while on a subsequent visit.

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